FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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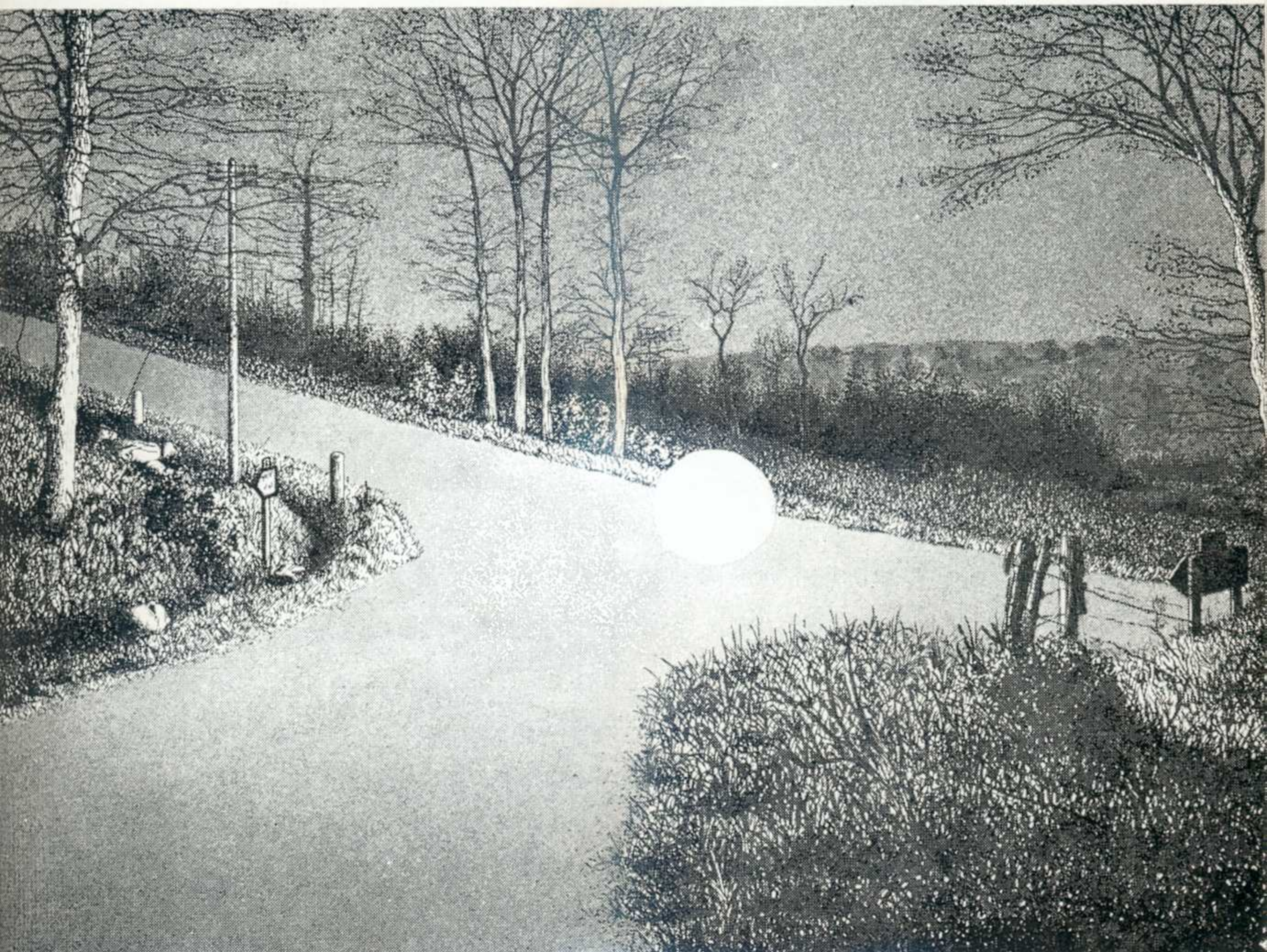

Auto-chase; auto-stop; saucer and occupants; wave of heat; physiological effects.

GRAND FINALE AT AVEYRON

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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CONTENTS

The Aveyron Enquiry—3: F. Lagarde 3

UFO Activity in relation to Day-of-the-Week: Dr. David R. Saunders .. 10

Book Review 12

A Landing near Lake Anten?: Sven-Olof Fredrickson .. 13

The Airship Wave of 1909—Pt. 2: Carl Grove 17

Mail Bag 20

Spring Heel Jack: Victorian Humanoid?: Roger Sandell 22

Múzio's Contacts: Nigel Rimes 24

A New FSR Catalogue—5 .. 28

Living Creatures, Earthquakes and UFOs: Gordon Creighton 30

World Round-up 30

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COMMON SENSE

As welcome as a zephyr breeze on a sultry day are the conclusions of a study subcommittee of 11 engineers and scientists set up by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). The Subcommittee's appraisal of the UFO problem was published in the November 1970 issue of *Astronautics and Aeronautics*, an AIAA publication.[1]

As a part of their studies, the Subcommittee examined the Condon Report, and, noting that 30% of the 117 cases included therein could not be identified, found no basis for Dr. Condon's prediction that nothing of scientific value would come from further studies. Indeed it is pointed out that ". . . the opposite conclusion could have been drawn from the content of the report, namely that a phenomenon with such a high ratio of unexplained cases should arouse sufficient scientific curiosity to continue its study."

This common sense approach on the part of a team headed by Dr. Joachim Kuettner of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of Boulder, Colorado, is encouraging, to say the least. It is worth noting, too, that the AIAA includes among its 30,000 members such distinguished personages as Werner von Braun, Secretary of the Air Force Robert Seamanns and astronaut Neil Armstrong, although it is not suggested that they were in any way concerned with the study project.

Early on in their appraisal, the AIAA Subcommittee emphasised that they were perturbed by the "paucity of thorough scientific and technological analysis applied to practically all observations before the Condon study. The few, often courageous, efforts by individuals to come to grips with this problem should be viewed more from an aspect of focusing attention on the problem rather than on solving it, since there is little doubt that it takes more than a personal effort to investigate fully a problem of such complexity."

The Subcommittee point out that not all conclusions contained in the Colorado University Commission's report are fully reflected in Dr. Condon's summary, and they cite briefly the 1956 Lakenheath case[2] and the Colorado Springs case of 1967. However, they add that "Condon's own conclusions have been widely misquoted" and repeat his lines: "'. . . Scientists are no respecters of authority. Our conclusion that study of UFO reports is not likely to advance science will not be uncritically accepted by them . . .'" and "'If they disagree [with those conclusions] it will be because our report has helped them reach a clear picture of wherein existing studies are faulty or incomplete . . .'" The AIAA Subcommittee then demonstrate that they are among those who disagree, for, after detailing the well-known figures about insufficient data, and explanations due to "known phenomena" with relation to reports, they state: "We find it difficult to ignore the small residue of well-documented but unexplainable cases which form the hardcore of the UFO controversy."

It is of interest too that the Subcommittee should find that the statement, in the Condon Report, that "*clearly defined, specific studies*" (which include "*important areas of atmospheric optics, including radiowave propagation, and of atmospheric electricity . . .*") "*should be considered and supported,*" is a better

criterion for support of UFO-related studies than the claim by "some extraterrestrial hypothesis exponents." This claim, that ". . . UFO research deserves maximum support as long as there is a ghost of a chance that UFOs are extraterrestrial vehicles" is considered just as unwarranted as is the opposite claim "that proof for the extraterrestrial hypothesis must be provided before serious consideration of the UFO problem is justified." They also disagree with Dr. Condon's views about ILE (intelligent life elsewhere) and its inability to visit Earth.

Concerning possible future studies, the Subcommittee suggests "a continuing moderate-level effort with emphasis on improved data collection by objective means, and on high-quality scientific analysis. Underlined is the fact that the recommended approach to the problem "requires not only the attention of the scientist and engineer, but also a readiness of government agencies to consider sound proposals in this field without bias or fear of ridicule and repercussion"

* * * * *

It remains to be seen whether or not anything specific in the way of a continuing study will result from this good, common sense approach to the problem.

Good advice that we can heed is that data should de objectively collected, and, as far as *Flying Saucer Review* is concerned, be put on record. To further this aim we have launched *FSR Case Histories*, and have urged readers themselves, where possible, to get out and about to follow-up and investigate all reports, and to send us the results. Which, we are sure you will agree, is also good common sense.

NOTES

[1] We are indebted to Dr. J. Allen Hynek for sending us a copy of the AIAA article, and also to Mr. Stanton T. Friedman who sent another, with additional notes. Thanks are also due to Mr. Julian Hennessy of NICAP who alerted us to the publication of the article.

[2] See also: Dr. James E. McDonald, *UFOs over Lakenheath in 1956* in FSR, Vol. 16, No. 2 (March/April 1970).

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THE AVEYRON ENQUIRY—3

F. Lagarde

Investigated by G. Canourges, J. Chasseign, F. Dupin de la Guérivière and F. Lagarde of the "Lumières dans la Nuit" organisation. This report, of which the dialogue is a transcription from tape recordings, gives some idea of the patient in-depth investigation carried out by the team and it should serve as a model for all other investigators. Our contributor is one of the editors of the journal "Lumières dans la Nuit," and we are indebted to him and his colleague Monsieur R. Veillith for their ready collaboration with FSR. Our thanks are conveyed also to John C. Hugill for his excellent translations.

THE evening of Thursday, January 6, 1967, has already been described and commented on. It was, as it were, the prologue to a series of sightings which reached its culminating point on the following Wednesday, January 11, 1967.

We were able to establish that on Saturday, January 7, on Monday, January 9, and on Tuesday, January 10, the "shell" and the "balls" were seen again some way off to the west, but with no particular incident of note. It seems too that the affair of the two dogs may have taken place on Sunday, January 8, but this is not certain.

* * *

We resume our conversation with the son on the subject of Wednesday evening (January 11), and incidentally we uncover a new fact in that, on that evening, the "shell" changed its position, or else that there were two of them.

The Son: "That Wednesday, I saw the 'shell' down there by the house . . . I don't know if it was the same one, because before I got in the car, I saw it down there to the west . . . and then when I'd got the car, it was over here to the north . . . I don't know if it was the same."

"*Well, let's have that in detail. On that Wednesday you saw the object in approximately the same place where you saw the others?*"

"Yes, at any rate I went out each evening and I saw them every time during that period."

"*That's it, yes. You saw them more or less always in the same place?*"

"Yes."

"*Except the Wednesday.*"

"Yes, on the Wednesday too I saw it . . . that day I went out and there was one of the balls coming up that there side road . . . down there . . . and it stopped on the main road, right in the middle. Then I came back to the house, and went upstairs, and I saw the ball still in the middle of the main road. Then I had the idea of getting the car . . ."

* * *

Before going on to the story of that evening's wanderings, we should note a point made by the son. In that countryside, at that time of year, people go to bed early in the evening. Here and there one saw lights piercing the darkness, which then went out one after the other. According to the witness, the balls only began to appear after the neighbouring lights had already gone out.

* * *

We got into M. Chasseigne's car to follow the route of the son in his vehicle, which covered a distance of some three kilometres.

"*Tell us, what happened exactly on that evening?*"

"Well, I got the car, and I could see the ball coming out of the side road. It was slap in the middle of the main road . . . and then it began to move. It followed the car, keeping the same speed as my own."

"*It followed, or went ahead?*"

"It was in front."

"*It preceded you?*"

"It preceded me, that's right."

(*the car sets off*)

The size of the "shell"

"Then it was opposite that post up there that you can see that I saw the 'shell'. So I stopped on that exact spot. I stopped the engine . . . and I watched the 'shell' . . . I saw it there . . . just to my left there . . . it was . . . it seemed enormous to me."

"*Was it before the pond?*"

"Not just there! No, say ten metres from there."

"*From where?*"

"Ten metres from . . . from that post there . . . ten metres or thereabouts, a little bit further down there."

"*Was it bigger than that tree?*"

"Oh, it was . . . it was very big . . . and the ball that I was following had stopped up there . . . almost at the end of the main road."

"*Do you see that tree down there beside the pond, and the three others in front?*"

"The three trees, yes . . . and I saw the ball down there . . . there was a ball . . . a white ball . . . the same one seemingly that I was following . . . it was above the pond down there . . . and after a few moments, there it was, and I got the impression that it was re-entering the 'shell'."

"*Where would you place the 'shell' in relation to the three trees and the solitary one over there?*"

"It was . . . well now . . . from where I am, in front of that lone tree, see?"

"*Beside the lone tree?*"

"No, in front."

The hesitations in his answers came from the fact that we did not know at this stage that the 'shell' was in fact very close, as we shall see for ourselves, and that the questions we asked were related to distant landmarks.

"*That's the tree in front of us, between here and the pond?*"

"Yes—yes."

"*Was it as high as the tree?*"

"Oh, much higher . . . much higher, yes!"

"*Was it touching the ground?*"

"I had the impression that it wasn't touching the ground . . . and it was just when I was opening the car door that it suddenly got very bright . . . it started to make a whistling noise, and then it pushed off."

(*All this time we were on the edge of the main road, in the position occupied by the witness, to get an idea of what he could have seen from there. Then we went into the meadow, and the witness halted us at the spot where the 'shell' was supposed to have been.*)

"*There were two or three metres between the 'shell' and the ground?*"

"Oh no! . . . wait a bit . . . say about two metres."

"*The height of a man?*"

"Yes."

"*But then it was only 30 metres from the car! As close as that?*"

"Oh, yes!"

"*That means something between 25-35 metres, or thereabouts?*"

"That's about it, yes! . . . it went off in that direction, down there, see?"

"*Oh, fine! But then it went over all those tree-tops down in the bottom there?*"

"Oh yes! . . . Oh! . . . oh my goodness!"

We made various measurements in evaluation, and reached the following approximations:

Distance from the car:	± 35 metres
Width of the machine:	± 2·5 metres
Height above ground:	± 2·0 metres

"*As close as all that, could you still estimate its height?*"

"It seemed huge to me."

(*We went back to the edge of the main road. A tree stood on the verge about 35 metres away. The witness estimated the height of the object in relation to the tree, and by measurement we concluded that, according to the witness' recollection of what he saw, the "shell" was ± 13·6 metres high.*)

Armed with this additional information, we resumed our questions.

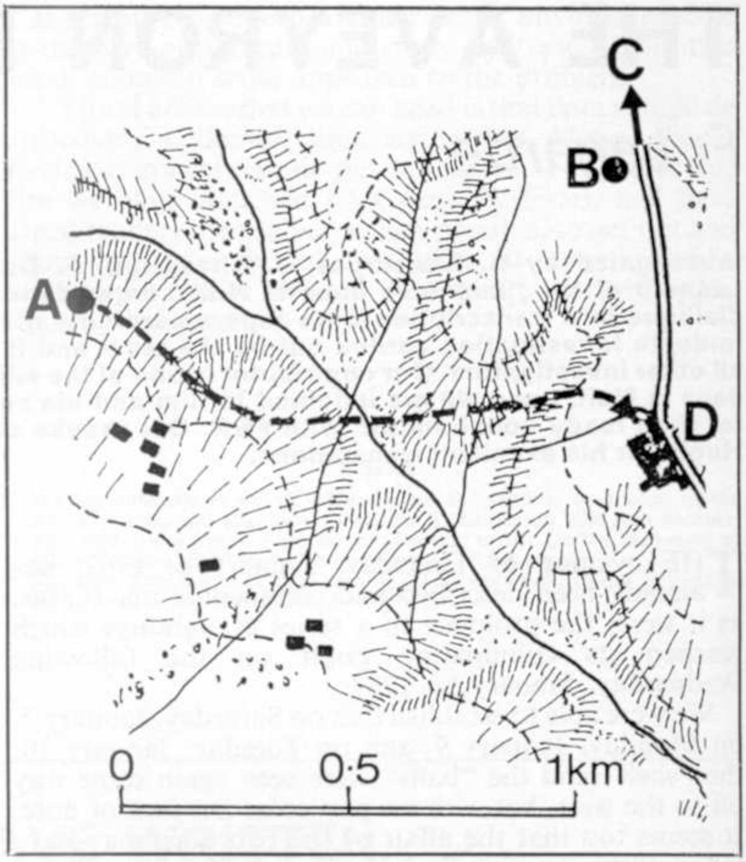
Features of the "shell"

"*So then, give us a description of this 'shell' which was 35 metres from you, and which you saw at this moment. Just before you opened the door.*" (*M. Chasseigne established the time more precisely.*)

"The shell was very bright, pointed at the end . . . and it had a maroon halo . . . or a maroon light . . . all around it."

"*At the top?*"

"At the top, yes."



Location of the various places.

(a) Position of the "Shell" and path taken by the balls of fire, Part I of article; (b) Position of "Shell", Part III of article; (c) Route taken by car, Part III; (d) Farm.

"*Were there 'balls' around it?*"

"Um . . . no there weren't . . . weren't any arms around it either . . . and there was that ball which was over the marsh which I saw coming up very fast, and I have the impression . . . it gave me the impression that it was re-entering the 'shell' . . . but I couldn't swear to it."

The witness is forgetting another "ball" which he described in two previous statements, and which, like this one, seemed to "melt" into the "shell." We ourselves forgot to remind him of this at the time; the weather was abominable, and it would have been unwise to expose our papers to it. Elsewhere than in this interrogation he is to tell us that the "shell" had a perfectly smooth surface, with no visible openings.

"*This maroon halo you noticed . . . was it there when you arrived, or did it light up afterwards?*"

"Oh no, no! It was there when I looked at it, the maroon halo, it was round the end, that's right."

"*The 'shell' was white in colour?*"

"White, yes."

"*Like the 'balls'?*"

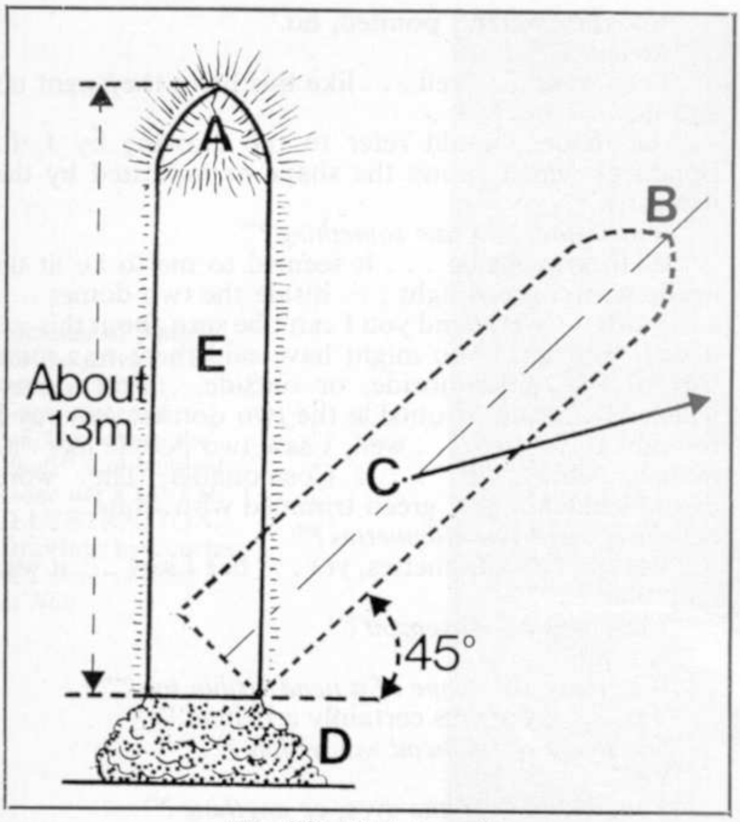
"Yes . . . but much more brilliant . . . much more brilliant it was."

"*And at the base? Did you notice anything around the base?*"

"When it went off, yes."

"*Nothing before that?*"

"Nothing before. When it went off, it seemed to me



The "Shell" takes off

A—maroon-coloured light; B—angle of tilt before take-off; C—take-off trajectory; D—like greenish steam before take-off; E—very bright white.

like a mist . . . a mist that was greenish, or maybe blue."

Mode of departure

"*When it went off, was it upright, vertical?*"

"A light mist . . . then it was just exactly at the moment when I opened the door . . . it became very bright, and it began to whistle, like a car's tyres squealing, a noise like that . . . and at the same time it became very very bright, and went off at speed . . . an incredible speed."

"*And how did it go off down there?*"

"Well, it leaned over!"

"*It leaned over? Did it go off vertically at first, and then lean over?*"

"No, no, it didn't go off vertically, no. It leaned over and it went off like this, climbing like that . . ."

"*On a straight trajectory?*"

"Yes."

"*You were able to see it lean over?*"

"Yes, yes. It leaned over first. I saw it when it was leaning over."

"*Did it rock?*"

"Yes, it rocked. I saw that, and it turned round on itself (pivoted on its base). It—it rocked to one side. I saw it, it went off, see . . . like this . . . like this!"

"*It was stationary like that, on the ground at an angle of 45°?*"

"Yes, it was like that. It did like this . . . not like this."

"*In other words, it wasn't aligned on its trajectory.*"

The accompanying sketch makes a synthesis of these explanations of the take-off. Analysing a detail of this phase of flight in one of his letters, M. Chasseigne pointed out to us the interest of this story for, he said, "there was no possibility of reference in relation to other earlier evidence." He added, "everyone knows in this day and age that a rocket takes off vertically, and then at a predetermined altitude, rocks over to place itself on the proper trajectory." What is more, the axis of the rocket merges with its trajectory. However, the witness makes no reference to these matters, but really seems to describe what he actually saw.

The "leader" and the "led"

"*So then the 'shell' leaned over, and took off. Then you still had the 'ball' waiting there in front of you?*"

"Oh yes, the 'ball' . . . it was . . ."

"*How far away?*"

"Oh! Well let's see . . . about . . . you see that milestone up there? It was just about there, by the milestone . . . at the side of it, see? And then I started up again—I don't remember now whether I'd cut the engine myself—anyway, I started off again . . . and that ball . . . I'd gone 10 metres or so, and the ball began to move off again."

(*M. Chasseigne drove on again, checking the trip-meter, and when we reached the milestone, it registered 150 metres.*)

The "ball" therefore was ready to move off, some 150 metres from the witness' car. The latter continues:

"I kept on going, and on that bit there I was doing 70 km.h. [approx. 44 m.p.h.—ED] . . . it was at night."

"*This ball was 1·2 metres in diameter, was it?*"

"Yes, 1·2 metres at most."

"*It didn't change colour?*"

"No, no."

(*we are still driving along*)

"*Whereabouts did you touch 100 km.h.?*" [*approx. 62 m.p.h.*—ED.].

"Further up, I'll show you . . . it was between 100 and 105 on the speedometer and the ball always kept the same distance ahead."

"*Now, this was on Wednesday the 9th?*"

"Yes, on the Wednesday . . . now then, it's about there that I reached top speed with the car . . . and the ball always stayed the same distance . . . about here I was doing 100 easily, in my car."

"*Some acceleration! You couldn't have held that speed for long?*"

"Oh no, a few seconds . . . and when I slowed down, the ball slowed down as well."

"*And it always stayed in front, always at the same distance?*"

"Always the same distance, yes."

"*Always 150 metres?*"

"150 metres, yes."

(*We reached the main road.*)

"Auto stop"

"Now here, here's where I'd got to when the engine stopped . . . and I saw the saucer down there—coming from down there."

"*So you stopped where? On the lower side of the junction?*"

"Yes, there's where I stopped."

(*We were 25 metres from the junction with the main road.*)

"Now the engine stopped up there, and I rolled back to this point with everything dead."

"*Your lights were out?*"

"Lights out, yes . . . you see, everything went out all at once, engine, lights, everything . . . I tried the starter, but nothing happened."

(In an earlier account, he said he tried to switch on the roof-light, but without success.)

"*And the 'ball' was still in front?*"

"The 'ball' was bang in the middle of the main road, see, down there, almost in the middle . . ."

(From his earlier account the 'ball' later jumped the ditch and stopped in the field *to the right of his car, and about 4 metres away*.)

Saucer and "occupants"

Then he started to feel panicky because:

". . . and then I saw the saucer! It was coming down, down . . . and then it fell over there."

We think it came from the north-west, heading south-east. In an earlier account, the witness writes in fact that he had opened the right-hand window and saw an object the form of which was unknown to him, and which he described as an oval dish. It would have passed to his right, and would have gone off to the south-east. If the basis of the story is similar, the details vary here and there. We will deal with this again later. The witness had a cold sweat on his back, and was perspiring freely.

"*This saucer, where was it?*"

"Let's say 20 metres to the right . . . over the meadow . . . it stayed about 3 or 4 metres from the ground . . . it was about the size of a Peugeot 404 . . . perhaps a little bigger. And then it had a light . . . behind."

"*It had a light behind it? In the way it was facing?*"

"Yes."

"*In other words, when you saw it arrive the light was on the other side?*"

"On the other side, yes."

"*What colour?*"

"Red."

"*Then on the upper side facing you . . .?*"

"On the upper side, there were two domes."

"*Facing you, were they side by side in the line of flight, or one behind the other? In tandem, or . . .?*"

"Well now, these two domes . . . um . . . well put this way if you like: one was in front and to the right, and there was another one behind, and to the left."

"*On a diagonal, then?*"

"Yes, that's right, yes."

"*They were placed diagonally relative to the overall oval shape of the machine?*"

"Yes."

"*In relation to the domes, so to speak, the rear light was between the two?*"

"Yes, if you put it like that, yes."

"*Now then, you showed these domes in your sketches as being pointed; were they pointed? Or perhaps . . .*"

"No, they weren't pointed, no."

"*Rounded?*"

"They went . . . well . . . like this here; they went up and down a bit."

(The reader should refer to the drawing by J. L. Boncoeur which shows the shape as indicated by the witness.)

"*And inside, you saw something?*"

"Well now, inside . . . it seemed to me to be lit up inside with a green light . . . inside the two domes . . . and I saw . . . well mind you I can't be sure about this . . . it was very dark, you might have said there was some sort of fog, either inside, or outside, . don't know which . . . inside or outside the two domes. Anyway I thought I saw two . . . well, I saw two people like . . . human beings see? . . . Cosmonauts. They wore overalls like aircrew, green trimmed with white."

"*There were two silhouettes?*"

"Yes . . . two silhouettes, yes . . . but I saw . . . it was very blurred."

"*There was no movement?*"

"No, no."

"*Was there the shape of a head visible too?*"

"Yes . . . there was certainly a helmet."

"*The shape of the head was visible?*"

"Yes."

"*You couldn't see the eyes, or anything?*"

"No."

"*And you saw the overalls?*"

"It was blurred . . . oh yes! yes, yes, they were green trimmed with white, and the interior was . . . it seemed to me it was lit with a green light."

"*And the saucer remained motionless?*"

"It was hovering, like this . . . from right to left."

"*Was it pitching?*"

"When it arrived . . . when it was coming down . . . it came down like this."

"*With a rolling movement?*"

"Yes, and backwards and forwards also, like this . . ."

"*Pitching and rolling both?*"

"Yes . . . and it stayed there . . . I don't know . . . a few seconds maybe."

Immobilisation, and other effects

"*Did you have the car doors shut during this time?*"

"Yes, yes . . . I must have opened the window, I think . . . or perhaps it was afterwards, when it went off, that I opened the window . . . and then I felt a wave of heat, and I felt myself almost . . . I couldn't move, hand or foot, for as long as it lasted, maybe several seconds."

"*Was it paralysis?*"

"A sort of paralysis . . . oh, I don't know if it was funk or what, for I was certainly scared at that moment."

"*And this heat, was it from radiation?*"

"There was that sign that you can see down there, I heard it . . . it . . . I saw it move that sign down there."

"*That signpost?*"

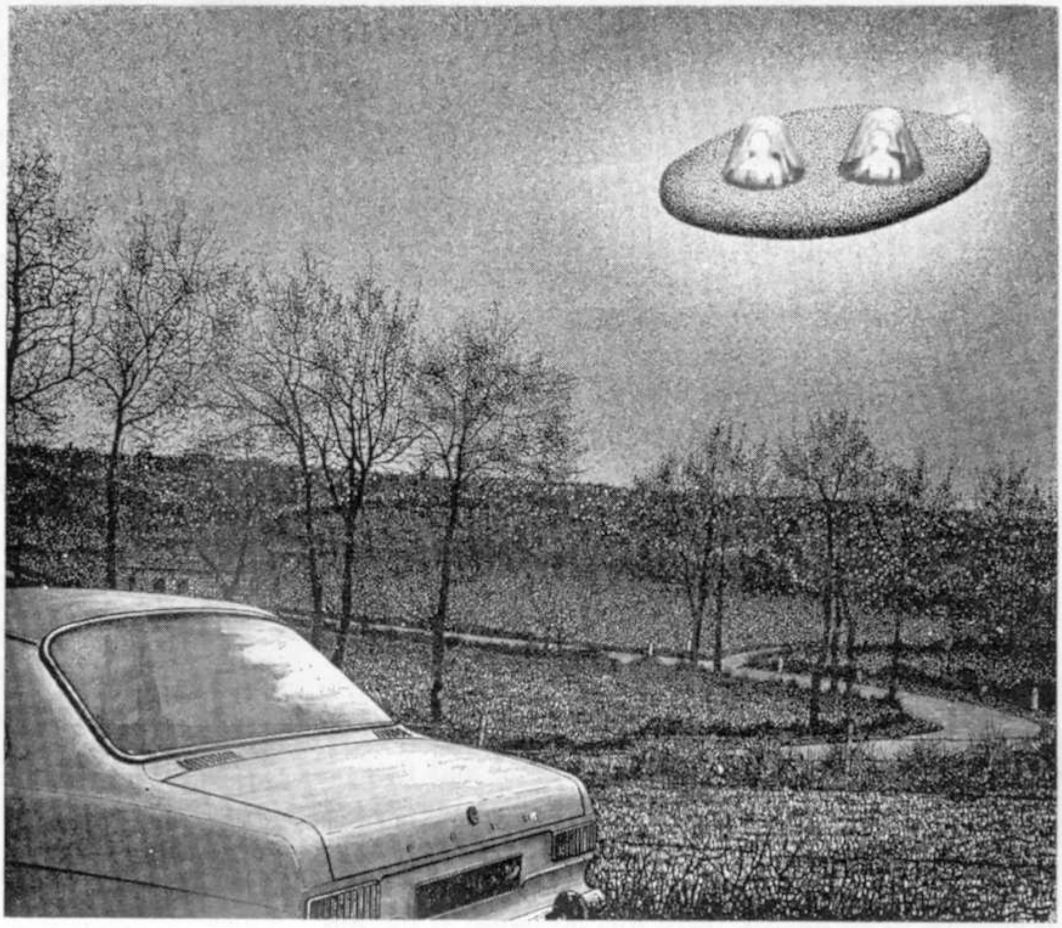
"Yes."

"*It vibrated, did it?*"

"It vibrated, yes, that's it!"

"*And what about this one?*"

(*There were two signs, one opposite us on the same*



Moment of panic for the driver! The car was halted below the road junction where the "ball" had stopped —see our COVER ILLUSTRATION. Drawings by courtesy of *Lumières dans la Nuit*

side, the other to the left on the other side of the main road. It was the one on the left which was vibrating.)

"I don't know . . . I saw that other one . . . I thought I saw that signpost down there move."

"*Did you hear any sound?*"

"A whistling when it took off."

"*A whistling of the same order . . . of the same frequency as the 'shell'?*"

"Not so piercing."

"*Less piercing?*"

"Then before, when it took off, it climbed to maybe 40 or 50 metres, and then came down again, in one swoop . . ."

"*Was it modulated, this whistling? Was it always the same frequency, or perhaps . . .?*"

"No, it started softly, and then it got louder!"

"*And when it came down again, did the sound increase?*"

"As to that, I can't say . . . but anyway, before it went off, I saw it . . . it climbed up to maybe 50 metres, and then it came down in a single swoop, as if it was falling . . . and it stopped suddenly two or three metres from the ground . . . and then it went off again to the east at a terrific speed."

"*When it went off, did the colour change?*"

"It became . . . it became very bright all over . . . bright as flames."

"*It became very bright at the moment of take-off, and what colour?*"

"White . . . whitish yellow . . . white tending towards yellow."

"*Underneath?*"

"All round . . . the whole saucer."

"*A halo which surrounded the saucer, so to speak?*"

"Yes."

"*And your lights? Had you left them switched on? Did they light up of their own accord?*"

"Yes . . . and the starter worked, and the car started up normally."

"*When you set off again, the starter worked properly?*"

"Yes, everything worked fine."

"*You must have had a terrible scare.*"

"Yes."

"*And what happened about your watch afterwards?*"

The witness did not answer on this occasion, but at an earlier interrogation he said it was functioning normally. We noticed that he often became lost in his own memories, and in the effort to remember, to forget nothing, and he returns to a different subject, perhaps for fear that we shall not come back to it.

"And I felt a wave of heat too . . . as if it was hot weather."

(It was a January evening.)

"*Now this radiation, compared for example to the mid-day sun—was it of the same intensity, or greater?*"

"Oh, it was very intense, a very intense wave of heat."

"*Did you feel it was penetrating? Was it an inward heat, or was it the air about you that seemed hot?*"

"My skin . . . the skin on my face . . . there . . . it seemed as if my face was on fire."

"*It wasn't the air then, but some sort of internal heat. Was it not the air? Did you not feel a blast of air? Was it then the skin?*"

"The skin, yes."

So it was radiation? A radiation of heat? Perhaps electro-magnetic? An internal effect, but on an external surface, like the effect of certain waves.

Departure of Saucer

"Then when it climbed up to 50 metres, and came down again, I thought it was going to . . . land on its nose, like . . . I said here we go, she's had it . . . and then it stopped suddenly 3 metres from the ground, and off it went again."

"*Suddenly? Or slowing down gradually?*"

"No, no! It stopped suddenly in a single instant, bang!"

"*There's no moment of inertia with these machines. It's extraordinary.*"

"Yes, and then me, I thought she was going to fall, and I said this time she's really had it."

"*And at what moment exactly did your lights come on? When it had gone? When you could see it no longer?*"

"Oh, no! It was a fair way off . . . it took off, I saw it go off down that way at a fair speed, and then it climbed . . ."

"*So it came, if you like, from a north-northwest direction . . .*"

"It went off, see, it was like that, see, and then it leaned over a bit like that, and went off like this . . . as if it was sliding sideways . . ."

"*Sideways, the domes moving sideways?*"

"Sideways, yes (*a lengthy explanation followed*). When it climbed to 50 metres, there was no pause at the top of the climb, it went down again without stopping. It started up again while turning . . . turning to the left. It went off towards the east there at a terrific speed."

"*And as soon as it went, the wave of heat disappeared?*"

"Yes, everything came back to normal at that moment."

"*What were your feelings at that moment? Relieved?*"

"Relieved, yes . . . and my lights came on again . . . I pressed the starter, and the car started up first go."

"*Did you try to see where it had gone? Or did you decide to pack it in?*"

"Oh no, I went off home."

"*This sign made a metallic sound, you said?*"

"Ah . . . that vibrated . . . I'm sure of it . . . that sign vibrated."

(*We went to examine these signs more closely.*)

We are at the spot where the witness was halted on the right of the road. About 20 metres ahead the main road crosses, climbing slightly from right to left. The road we are on is signposted as usual with panels of enamelled sheet-iron, about one metre high (these are rectangles with an arrow pointing in our direction). The panels are not particularly easy to see from where we stand. The one on our side is partly hidden by a grassy bank. The one which vibrated is set at the bottom of a ditch against the embankment of a meadow. On examination, we find that it is supported on a single upright post of galvanised iron. The two supports are fixed with bolts, with washers, giving a certain amount of play to the sign, and it is possible to impart a slight movement to and fro, by hand. The vibration theory is thus perfectly acceptable.

On the contrary, the one on our side, nearer the witness, but harder to spot (it has a black back), is fixed to the ground by two metal posts instead of one, and it was impossible to detect any lateral movement. To study magnetic effects, mandatory in normal circumstances, was not feasible after a lapse of three years. However, we asked the witness, who had remained in the car:

"*Are these the same signs which were there at the time? They haven't been changed since?*"

"I don't think so, no." (*He passes the spot very regularly.*)

* * *

We set off again. As we drove, we tried to clear up the puzzle of the "shell" which was in two different places, and managed to fix its position from the following narrative.

"*If there had been two 'shells' would you have been able to see both of them from your window?*"

"Oh yes, perhaps, but I only saw one of them."

"*When you set off in your car, the 'shell' was not positioned here? Or was it?*"

"Um—m— . . ."

"*When you drove off to chase the 'ball', you had previously seen the object, had you not?*"

"Yes, yes, yes."

"*In this position?*"

"It was over there."

"*Then it was not in the same position as on previous days?*"

"Oh no."

"*But on the Wednesday, you did not at first see it in its usual position?*"

"Oh no! I saw it arrive on that day too."

"*You saw it arrive?*"

"I saw it arrive, yes."

"*You saw it arrive, and was it also leaning over in the same way?*"

"Leaning over, yes."

"*Relative to the vertical?*"

"Yes. I saw it arrive, yes . . . very slowly it was."

"*And to settle, what did it do?*"

"I saw it arrive; it came from the northward, or maybe the north-west, and it zig-zagged from right to left."

"*Zig-zagged?*"

"Yes, it zig-zagged like—I don't know—like a fly."

"*To that point there?*"

"No, although . . . one would have said . . . oh I don't know . . . from time to time it moved off to left or right."

We shall never know whether the "shell" moved to the edge of the main road without the witness noticing that it had moved, or whether there were two of them on that particular evening. On the other hand, the recollection of how it arrived returned to him, and he was able to describe the slow, almost hesitant approach before it settled. The actual phase of settling was not described.

Physiological effects

"*Now let's talk of what happened after these sightings.*

You told me that soon afterwards you had trouble in sleeping?"

"That's right, a few days afterwards."

"*A few days afterwards? The sighting was early in January, so when did you begin to have trouble in sleeping?*"

"Let's say . . . I don't know . . . a week later maybe . . . perhaps the following Tuesday . . . I don't remember exactly."

"*How did it happen?*"

"Well, it didn't happen all at once . . . it seemed to come on gradually, I think."

"*I see, fine!*"

"And it went off gradually as well, about mid-March it went off . . . but then, well . . . I'll tell you . . . I must have slept at least . . . I don't know . . . perhaps 20 hours in the 24. At any rate, it must have been at least 18 hours in 24."

"*And you never consulted a doctor?*"

"Oh, my parents told me to, but I didn't want to."

"*Your parents must have been worried?*"

"They were worried, yes . . . at the end they were worried, yes . . . but then I just needed to sleep, there was no use to fuss . . . when it hit me, I had to . . . I couldn't stay on my feet."

"*And when you woke up, how did you feel?*"

"Quite normal."

"*Normal? Not weak at all?*"

"No, no. Not weak."

"*Just normal, eh? The only difference being that you slept more?*"

"Yes, normal. I slept all right . . . I slept . . . like a log, yes . . . that never happened to me before, like that."

"*And this went on from January 15 to March 15—two whole months! That's a tremendously long time!*"

"All I know is, I **had** to sleep, I just had to sleep."

"*Did you ever try to resist this sleepiness?*"

"Yes, once, on a Sunday . . . I resisted until 7 or 8 in the evening . . . not later . . . I would have gone to sleep on my feet . . . oh dear yes . . . even drinking coffee."

It should be noted that the farm is some distance from any large town, and it was the son's habit on a Sunday to go out, only returning home very late at night. To retire at 8 in the evening is entirely out of character.

* * * * *

The son continues his story:

"There's something else which . . . it's something I don't know how to explain . . . it seemed to me . . . how can I put it? . . . I remained conscious and yet could not move hand or foot, not even a finger . . . for several seconds at a time."

"*Was this during the night?*"

"Mostly the early morning, between 4 and 5 a.m."

"*While you were asleep, or after you had woken up?*"

"When I was awake . . . suddenly I talked like . . . I don't know . . . I let myself go . . . I talked . . . then after a moment or two I couldn't move . . . not a muscle . . . but I remained conscious, my mind alert."

"*Good, good!*"

"This happened three or four times I suppose . . . I could see absolutely nothing, but was conscious and mentally alert . . . I seemed, I don't know, I seemed to be floating off to . . . I don't know . . . it's difficult to describe . . ."

"*You were wandering?*"

"No, it was as if my soul was outside my body—I don't know how to explain it to you, it's difficult . . . I tried to control my movements, but I couldn't, it was as if I was dead. Yet I was conscious, and mentally alert."

"*Your limbs no longer obeyed you?*"

"That's it, yes . . . and the second time it happened I was scared. I said to myself, this time you're paralysed!"

"*Did you try to call out?*"

"But I couldn't, couldn't even speak, couldn't move, nothing. I remained conscious, and my mind was alert, that's all."

"*Your body . . .*"

"It seemed to me as if I was floating above my body. It's difficult to explain, that is."

"*You didn't have the impression of seeing yourself . . . stretched out?*"

"Oh, no!"

"*So there was no question of a splitting in two, eh?*"

"It's hard to explain . . . I lived it . . . but to explain it is very difficult . . . I don't know how to put it into words."

Comment

This unvarnished tale is a faithful account of the sequence of events in the third part of our investigation. The witness has told the story three times, first in a letter, then to Mr. Dupin de la Guérivière, and finally to ourselves.

Though the essential facts, and the basis of the story are identical in the three versions, there need be no cause for astonishment if there are sometimes differences in detail. These have no bearing on our understanding of the facts, or of how they developed. Taking into account that the facts were three years old, that the witness took no notes, and that he saw so many happenings that we ourselves in the same circumstances would have forgotten some of them, we do not propose to make a list of the inconsistencies. They lie essentially in chronology, orientation (once only), and above all forgetfulness.

We always got the impression that the witness was reliving what he had seen, and that events were welling up in his memory. Often, lost in his recollections, he failed to hear our questions. We never had the feeling that he was embellishing his tale, but rather that he had forgotten parts of it. The arrival of the "shell", the vibrating signpost, and (an important fact confirmed by his parents) his difficulty in sleeping, all came to light in this way.

He was frank in admitting this. Our investigation, conducted with great care and in the light of known facts, is the most complete and detailed so far. There still remains a great many things to be gone into more deeply, and outside witnesses to be sought, and it is with these matters that we and our colleagues will now be busying ourselves.

* * *

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UFO ACTIVITY IN RELATION TO DAY-OF-THE-WEEK

Dr. David R. Saunders

AN opinion that was popular among that now extinct species, "Base UFO Officer," held that the peak of UFO activity fell on weekends. According to its adherents, this was consistent with the fact that Saturday night is most popular for partying and drinking, and with the theory that UFOs are caused by hoaxes and hallucinations.

Quite a different suggestion is made by Keel (Ref. 2, p. 20), who finds "that the greatest number of sightings are reported on Wednesday, and then they slowly taper off through the rest of the week. The lowest number occurs on Tuesday." This conclusion is based on a sample of 730 Type I sightings reported in the press in 1966. Keel calls this "Wednesday phenomenon" "very valid" and "inexplicable," and makes it a cornerstone for building his ultraterrestrial thesis.

My own informal observation had been that the peak day of the most notorious flaps fell on or near Tuesday. However, the timing of official debunking statements and their effect on the press is a possible contributing factor in at least some of these instances.

A common feature of all of the above views is that they predict unequal proportions of reports on various days of the week. Before considering any of them seriously, we would need to establish that the simpler hypothesis of predicted equality is *too* simple. A hypothesis of predicted equality would make sense, for example, if UFOs are primarily a natural phenomenon unrelated to the human calendar.

Neither of the two largest-scale published statistical studies of UFOs[1, 5] pays any attention to day of the week.

In order to shed light on this matter, UFOCAT-70 was sorted into chronological order, according to the dates punched in columns 9-15. (Typically, these are the dates according to local time.) For each date, the reports were grouped according to the political unit and subunit punched in columns 41-44. Reports with incomplete dates, erroneous dates, not - later - than dates, or dates before 1921, were all excluded.

The computer was then instructed to tally the remaining reports into a table, according to year and day of the week. In order to minimise any bias that could be caused by multiple UFOCAT entries for the same sighting, the computer was instructed to tally a maximum of one event per political unit per date. This reduced the total number of tallies to 7025, distributed as shown in Table 1.

Under the simple - minded assumption that all seven days of the week are equally likely, the chi-square statistic was computed for each line of the table and these values were scaled according to their remarkability. An R of zero indicates the expected degree of conformity between the data and the equally likely hypothesis; a negative R indicates even better than chance conformity. A high positive R indicates that the inequalities are so great that an explanation other than "equally likely" must be sought. Since it turns out that the only alternative explanations worth considering are based on essentially the same data that have been tallied, an R of approximately + 10 will be needed.[3] For this discussion, I will regard 9·57 as meeting this requirement.*

The R-value obtained from the total line is greater than for any of the individual years. The largest value for a single year is 8·21 for 1969; since data for only part of 1969 appear in UFOCAT-70, the data on this line are particularly vulnerable to the influence of one or two "flap dates," which could act to raise chi-square and R. The second-largest value for a single year is 7·41 for 1959; the form of the 1959 distribution is similar to that of the overall totals. From 1947 on, the algebraic sum of all the single-year remarkability values is 13·95, which is not enough greater than 9·57 to require further comment. In view of these things, Table 1 may be interpreted as indicating that there *is* a tendency for days of the week to contribute unequal numbers of UFO reports, *and* that this tendency is parallel from year to year.

The mere existence of this unequal tendency tends to weaken the "natural phenomenon" hypothesis (but see below). The nature of the inequalities argues strongly against the USAF view (Saturday should rank first instead of last) and against the Keel view (Tuesday should rank last instead of almost first). It should be noted, though, that Keel's view is based on analysis of Type I (low level) sightings only, whereas this study has employed no such screen.

Actually, the most striking feature of Table 1 is the *low* number of tallies for Saturday, with the next lowest totals recorded for Friday and Sunday. It is possible that these results depend on the action of an editorial filter, rather than on the phenomenon itself. Many papers either don't publish at all on Sunday, or compose all but the front page

* When a parallel run was made allowing one event per political *sub*-unit per date, a total of 8,741 tallies resulted, with chi-square = 27·708 and R = 12·26; the inclusion of these tallies appears to reinforce what is shown in Table 1, but the data are now dominated by a few well-investigated flaps. When a run was made removing the restriction entirely, 12,558 tallies resulted, with chi-square = 23·075 and R = 9·72; the addition of these further tallies evidently does tend to blur the picture.

	TOTAL	SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	X**2	R
1921	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1922	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5·000	—0·26
1923	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1924	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5·000	—0·26
1925	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1926	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6·000	0·43
1927	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6·000	0·43
1928	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1929	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	5·000	—0·26
1930	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1931	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6·000	0·43
1932	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1933	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	6·500	0·75
1934	5	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	4·800	—0·41
1935	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1936	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	8·667	2·01
1937	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	5·000	—0·26
1938	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1939	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1940	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1941	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
1942	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	8·667	2·01
1943	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	4·000	—1·07
1944	8	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	4·250	—0·85
1945	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6·000	0·43
1946	7	1	2	0	2	1	0	1	4·000	—1·07
1947	467	72	76	79	62	57	55	66	7·786	1·51
1948	71	15	9	7	10	11	14	5	7·577	1·39
1949	43	6	3	10	7	6	6	5	4·372	—0·75
1950	317	40	53	44	57	51	40	32	10·233	2·86
1951	84	7	12	14	15	11	16	9	5·333	—0·02
1952	407	65	52	75	62	50	45	58	10·713	3·11
1953	154	19	17	21	24	22	26	25	2·909	—2·18
1954	486	67	72	59	75	65	78	70	3·539	—1·50
1955	171	29	28	18	28	27	21	20	5·146	—0·16
1956	225	34	32	34	32	36	30	27	1·644	—4·21
1957	447	51	65	88	68	66	58	51	15·204	5·48
1958	254	45	40	33	32	35	36	33	3·622	—1·41
1959	176	24	21	40	34	18	24	15	18·807	7·41
1960	125	19	19	20	17	16	15	19	1·168	—5·48
1961	80	12	14	12	9	10	10	13	1·725	—4·03
1962	122	16	17	23	18	12	20	16	4·115	—0·97
1963	86	5	13	18	14	16	11	9	9·395	2·40
1964	60	7	10	14	5	8	7	9	5·800	0·30
1965	193	26	36	21	25	32	27	26	5·285	—0·06
1966	373	58	53	47	61	45	61	48	5·206	—0·11
1967	1,561	199	238	239	240	236	212	197	10·368	2·93
1968	813	109	120	112	134	106	116	116	4·347	—0·77
1969	264	40	30	34	40	61	31	28	20·295	8·21
1970	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0·	—0·
TOTAL	7,025	971	1,033	1,067	1,077	1,008	966	903	22·806	9·57

Table 1 UFOCAT-70 **results (data for only part of 1969 appear in this listing).**

ahead of time; assuming most papers want to print "news," a sighting that takes place on Saturday would have relatively fewer ways of becoming known.

It is also possible that these results do depend directly on the phenomenon. In this connection, Smith's analysis of possible correlations of UFO activity with unexplained power failures acquires added interest. Smith has already displayed the similarity of the power-failure and UFO activity curves on a year-by-year basis.[4] He also presents the following frequencies for power-failures by day of the week:

Sunday	48
Monday	64
Tuesday	56
Wednesday	72
Thursday	76
Friday	63
Saturday	30
Total	409

Under an "equally likely" hypothesis, this distribution yields a chi-square of 25·05, and a remarkability of 10·80; therefore, we can't just ignore it. Of course, it might be sufficient to observe that overall power consumption is less on weekends, and that power failures are likely to be related to load. In Smith's data, obtained from the Federal Power Commission, the definition of a reportable power failure *is* related to load.

On the other hand, the form of Smith's distribution is basically similar to that of our totals in Table 1; both display the relatively sharp low point on Saturday and the relatively rounded high earlier in the week. The power failure curve seems more exaggerated than the UFO activity curve, but this could be expected if the UFO dates are relatively less accurately known. Thus, it is conceivable that both curves depend on a "level of UFO-interest in terrestrial goings-on" as a function of the day of the week. This need not be incompatible with a relationship between power failures and power consumption.

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BOOK REVIEW

MYSTERIOUS WORLDS. A Personal Investigation of the Weird, the Uncanny, and the Unexplained, by **Dennis Bardens** (W. H. Allen, London and New York, 1970, £1·80 or (36/-).

There have been many handy one-volume introductions to the weird, the uncanny, and the unexplained, but most of them are long ago out of print and in any case are out of date. The great advantage of this excellent new book by Dennis Bardens is not only that it is right up-to-date but also that it has been written with the same thoroughness and objectivity which won high praise for the author when he was the Editor of the BBC's *Focus* series of programmes, and the first Editor of their most successful and most ambitious television programme, *Panorama*.

Mr. Bardens' interest in unexplained phenomena had been shown already in one of his previous books, *Ghosts And Hauntings*. The scope of the new work is much wider, with chapters devoted to such themes as telepathy, dreams, premonitions, ghosts, astral projection, witchcraft and black magic, etc. On all these he is eminently worth reading, but what will no doubt particularly recommend the book to readers of FSR is that Mr. Bardens has devoted his concluding chapter to an excellent and succinct presentation of the UFO Problem. In addition to touching briefly upon a few of the classic cases such as those of Valensole and of Captain Howard, he deals with the UFO scene in Russia, the Condon Report, and such recent developments as the Symposium held by the American Association For The Advancement of Science in Boston between December 26 and 31 of 1969, two days of which approximately were devoted to UFOs. Several pages of the book give a résumé of Mr. Bardens' talks with the Editor of FSR, and there are also quotations of the views of our colleagues Charles Gibbs-Smith and C. Maxwell Cade.

After so much of the material that one has seen in recent years it is a real pleasure to read a book that, besides being well composed, also shows such care in presenting the most important aspects of the UFO problem in their correct proportions and without omissions or distortions.

I will also add that it is particularly pleasing to see that Mr. Bardens emphasises the very real danger courted by those (and they seem all too numerous nowadays) who are rash enough to dabble in the murky and unsavoury realms of black magic and witchcraft which—as not a few of our more intelligent citizens are now beginning to perceive—are very probably directly linked with at least *some* of the features and *some* of the elements that are an integral part of the whole UFO picture. As a British doctor recently observed, "*If I wanted to find a means of destroying a country I don't suppose I could find a better means than drugs*," and we may be quite sure that all these things are now happening in our world are very closely linked and closely coordinated and planned.

Mr. Bardens is also honest and clear-sighted enough to think it necessary to sound a note of warning on the frightful threat to all human freedom that will inevitably result if success crowns the researches that certain governments are even now conducting into various aspects of parapsychology, particularly telepathy. "*No country is so civilized*", he reminds us, "*as to be trusted with a means of communication that would destroy the last vestige of personal privacy*."

GORDON CREIGHTON.

Your recommendation is our best advertisement.

So please tell your friends about ***Flying Saucer Review*** and ***FSR Case Histories.***

A LANDING NEAR LAKE ANTEN?

A new case from Sweden, with burn marks and analysis of soil samples.

Sven-Olof Fredrickson

Our contributor is Secretary of Göteborgs Informations Center om Oidentifierade Flygande Föremäl (GICOFF),* a group formed by a number of science students.

THE occurrence you will read about below happened the night between August 29 and 30, 1970, at a place west of Lake Anten,† 40 kilometres north-west of Gothenburg, Sweden (see map, fig 1).

We, GICOFF, became aware of it on Wednesday, September 2, and, the day after, four of us went up to the place. First we talked to an inspector at the police station in Alingsås, the neighbouring town. He told us the occurrence had not really interested them. They had reported it to the military authorities, but they did not seem to be interested either.

We then went to the place where it had happened, a little farm or rather a croft called Enebacken. On arriving at the croft we found another car standing there. The owner of the house, Mr. Richard Johansson, 81 years old, was being visited by his daughter and a friend of hers. She came out to meet us and showed us a corner of the garden about 25 metres from the house.

"There they are," she said—something she had probably done several times, because we soon learned that a lot of people from around about had been there. We went to the corner as directed and saw three burned marks that had been reported in the newspapers.

We took a lot of photographs, we measured the marks and the surroundings and we took a couple of earth samples, one from the marks and one from a place 4 metres away (more about this later).

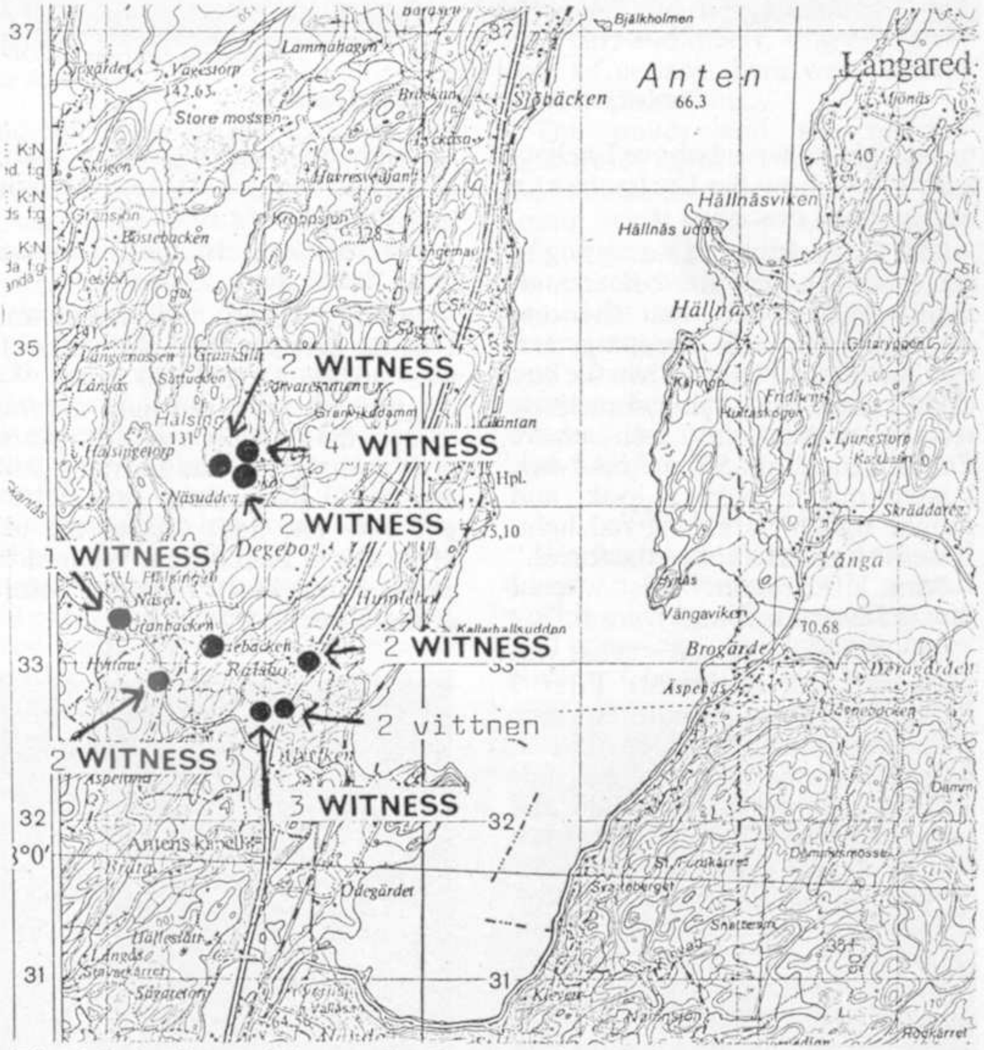


Fig. 1. Lake Anten, Alingsas, Sweden—location of witnesses around Enebacken

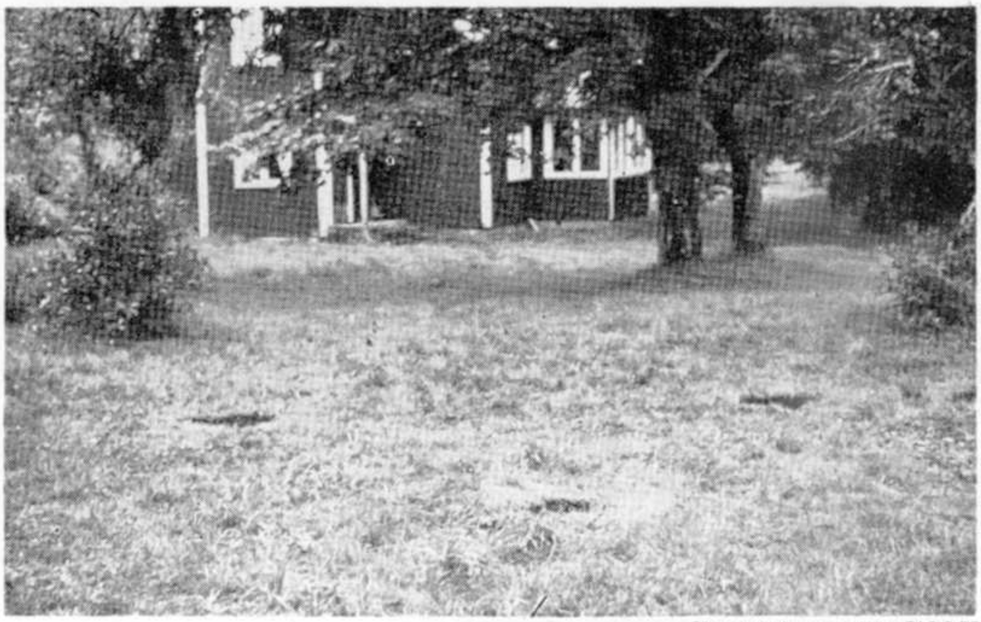
Mr. Johansson, 81, told us: "I did not see or hear anything. You see I went to bed at 9.00 p.m., but my room is on the opposite side of the house. I am not particularly bothered about the incident, but it has been amusing to see people around this place. Whoever landed there has taken care not to destroy anything."

Several witnesses of strange light

Then we had to find witnesses

* Kjellmansgatan 9, 413 18 Göteborg, Sweden.

† In the GICOFF index this case is designated: 300870 Anten, Alingsås, Sweden.



Photographs copyright GICOFF

Garden and house; location of holes

to the light observed above Enebacken. This is how the Karlssons at a nearby farm described it:

Mr. E. Karlsson: "I was going to go to bed—it was just before midnight—when I saw that the cars on the road were stopping and putting out their lights. Then the boy came running in saying something red in colour was seen above Enebacken, about 500 metres away. I went out to have a look, and caught sight of a strong red light. It went to and fro above the forest."

Mrs. I. Karlsson: "Just when I saw it I heard a sound from it."

Mr. Karlsson agreed: "That was what puzzled me most. First I thought it was an aircraft, but then I realised it could not be that. It behaved so strangely, and not only that, it was round and bright and very red. It went both up and down and to and fro above Enebacken. Sometimes it disappeared below the treetops only to reappear after a while. The speed varied, sometimes it glided slowly only to accelerate very fast. Once it was almost down at the meadow in front of the forest only 200 metres away. Then I saw some beams of light coming from it. They were yellow-white in colour and seemed to come from the side of the red sphere, which had the size of about half the moon."

Mrs. I. Karlsson: "We were standing outside for a while but then we went in and watched it through the window. When going to bed at about 2.00 a.m. the light was still standing there."

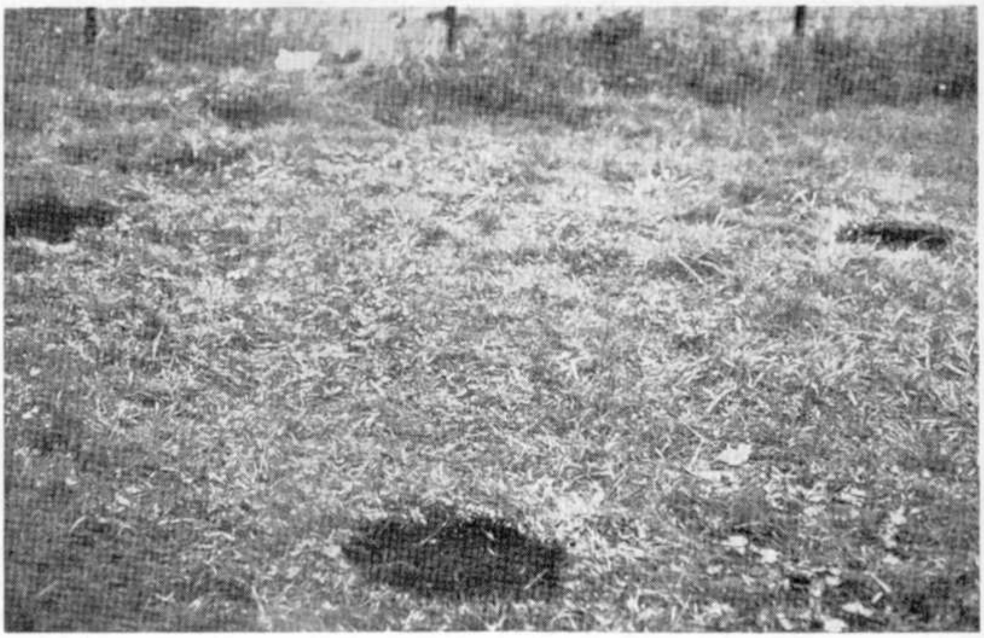
We managed to find witnesses from three cars:

Mr. P. Nilsson: "My friend and I came driving from Alingsås. It was about 11.15-11.30 p.m. We caught sight of a red light moving to and fro and up and down, and now and then it was standing still. My friend stopped the car, and we got out. The light was to the left of us above Enebacken. We looked at it for maybe 10 minutes, before going home."

Mrs. Olsson: "My husband and I were returning from a visit to friends. We saw something which resembled a rear lamp on a car, red-yellow in colour. First we thought it was an aircraft, but we soon realised that it was not. We looked at it for 3-4 minutes. The time was then 12.25 a.m."

Mrs. E. Aronsson: "Shortly before 11.30 p.m. I saw, together with a friend, a bright illuminated ball just above the treetops. First I thought it was the moon, but this was red and it was so bright."

All these witnesses were located south or east of Enebacken. We found a further eight witnesses who had been to the north of the incident. One of them indicated how she had seen the light between two trees. When checking with a compass we found it to be precisely in the direction of Enebacken. Another, a Mr. E. Johansson, told us: "I caught sight of the red, bright ball above Enebacken at about 11.45 p.m. I was together with my wife and another couple. We estimate its size to be a little less than that of the full moon. It moved to and fro and up and down above the forest. We could also see something like a beam of light coming from the ground going up to the light. It was very beautiful to look at. The light was constant in brightness and created an illuminated streak on the surface of Lake Haslingen."



Closer view of holes

Hole viewed from above

The distance between Enebacken and these witnesses is about 1,100 metres. At 12.15 a.m. Mr. E. Johansson and the other man took the car to try to find out what the light was. When turning into the side road leading to Enebacken they found another car, a blue SAAB, standing there. In it were two young men, who said that they too had tried to find out what the light was. While they were standing there the light went out, or disappeared.

Mr. E. Johansson and his friend thought someone at Enebacken was using a balloon, or something like that, so they turned the car and went back. After coming home they caught sight of the light again. At about 1.00 a.m. they tired of it and went to bed. What happened to the blue SAAB they do not know. It was still standing there when they left. (We have not been able to trace it.)

The next morning Mr. E. Johansson and a couple of others went over Lake Halsingen by boat, went up to Enebacken and found the round marks.

We also found one witness west of Enebacken. A woman had seen the light from her house.

For the locations of all these witnesses see fig. 1.

Description of the site

Enebacken is situated in pretty rough country. There are lakes, forests and mountains and hills, and not many people living in the neighbourhood. The croft is surrounded by forest, and around the house there is a garden and a meadow. The corner of the garden where the marks were found is a little higher than the surroundings. It is an old lawn, rather uneven, with old fruit-trees standing on it. The marks were about 40 cms. in diameter and 4 cms. deep. They were not all alike but differed a little around the edges and in depth. One was a little less round than the other two. It did not seem as if something had been standing there, but rather as if three jet-beams had been used. The marks were located relative to each other as shown in fig. 2. See also the photographs.

We also checked the weather at three places around Alingsås, and found that it was cloudy at the time. The clouds were at a height of about 200 metres (mist-clouds). The wind was south-west and about 5 metres/sec. This has been confirmed by several of the witnesses.

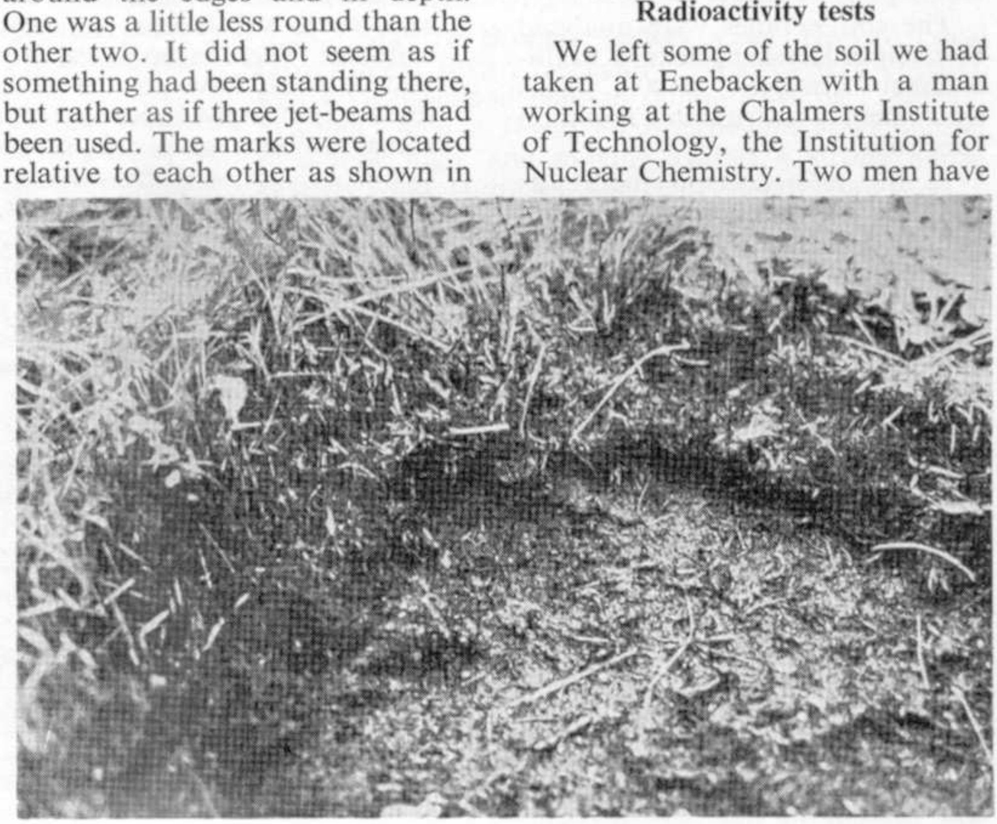
Explanations

While we were conducting our investigations there was a lot of speculation in the press. One paper explained the mystery by saying that the young men in the blue car had made the marks and used a balloon as a hoax. Another explained it with a warm-air balloon being lost and then landing, sending for a car, and then taking off again, and, of course, there were several other explanations.

The police and the military authorities seem to have accepted the balloon theory completely. Two young men were pointed out as having perpetuated this hoax. When we talked with one of them he denied it completely. We have several reasons for believing him. One is that he was pointed out because he had a green FIAT, whereas the mysterious car was a blue SAAB.

Radioactivity tests

We left some of the soil we had taken at Enebacken with a man working at the Chalmers Institute of Technology, the Institution for Nuclear Chemistry. Two men have



Depth and burning effect clearly shown

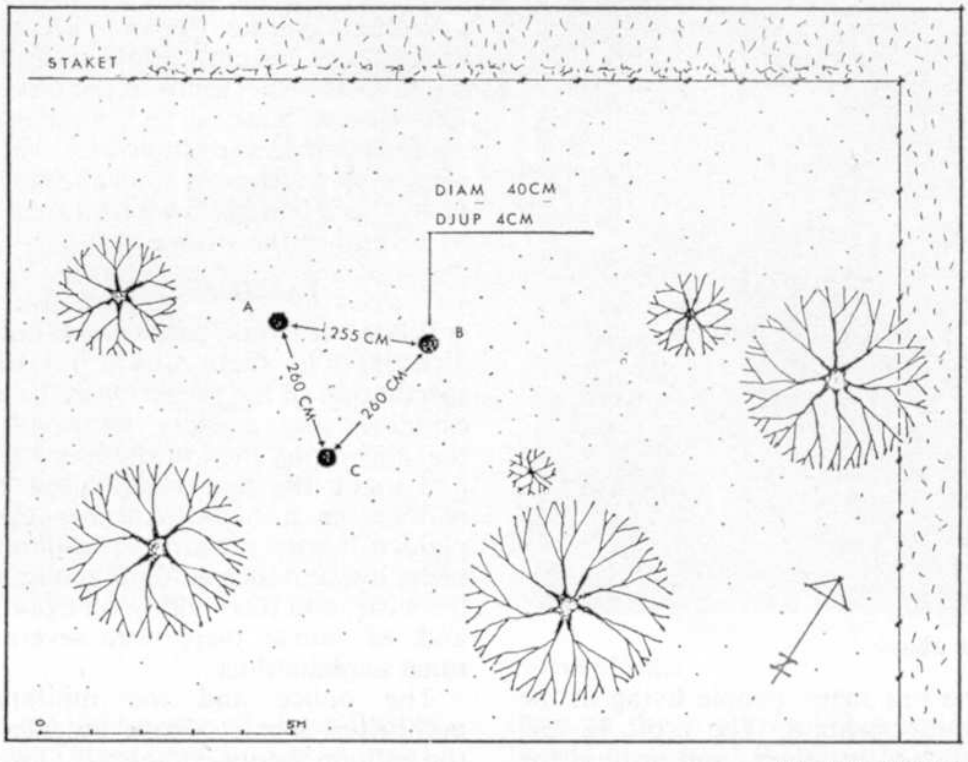


Fig. 2. Distances measured between edges of holes

been investigating it. There have been three tests over differing periods. The following is based on the last test which took 24 hours, 8 hours with empty instrument, 8 with the reference-soil (4 metres from the marks) and 8 with the test-soil (from one of the marks).

The soil samples were analysed by using a Hewlett Packard Multi-channel Analyser, 5400A. This instrument takes a gamma radiation spectrum.

In the reference-soil there was no activity, except the natural background one. The test - soil showed a weak gamma-activity at an energy of 660 keV, which had not decreased two weeks after the first test. This activity could possibly come from a barium isotope ^{137} Ba (gamma-activity at 662 KeV), which is created when a cerium isotope ^{137}Ce radiates beta-radiation (^{137}Ce has a half-life of 30 years). The measured activity is very low, less than 900 pulses in 8 hours, but nevertheless is exceptional. The man doing the last two tests has told us that ^{137}Ce, to the best of his knowledge, can only be found in certain nuclear processes. Furthermore, the fact that no activity (except the natural background one) was present in the reference-soil, seems to rule out the possibility that the activity had come from a nuclear test in the atmosphere.

There seem, therefore, to be only two possibilities:

1. Someone has had a little fun at our expense, but he must then have used a substance to create the marks, which contains ^{137}Ce, and such substances are not common. There is no possibility that he would have put the ^{137}Ce there knowingly because the actual amount involved is too small.
2. Something unfamiliar to us, using something which contains ^{137}Ce had been at Enebacken on the night in question.

There might be one more possibility left: that gamma-activity is not coming from ^{137}Ce but from an even more unusual substance. But if so, we do not know from what (see fig. 3).

Other sightings

We have recorded at least 10 other sightings in this area since September 1, 1969. Most of them are described as being round and red or yellow in colour. They are often seen for long periods, and on a couple of occasions there has been more than one object. In one case, when the witness thought it went very low over his house, a whistling sound was heard. All this has happened in an area of less than one square mile (1 Swedish mile = 10 kilometres) around Lake Anten.

This case has some very interesting details, but poses a lot of questions. Let me point out some of these questions: Mr. E. Johansson says that when they came to Enebacken on the Sunday morning, they saw car-tracks on the lawn only 10 metres from the marks. Were they already there on Saturday, or did anyone go there in the night or early in the morning, or was there a hoax by a person or persons who had their car standing there? What happened to the blue SAAB? Did the lightbeam come from the object or from the ground?

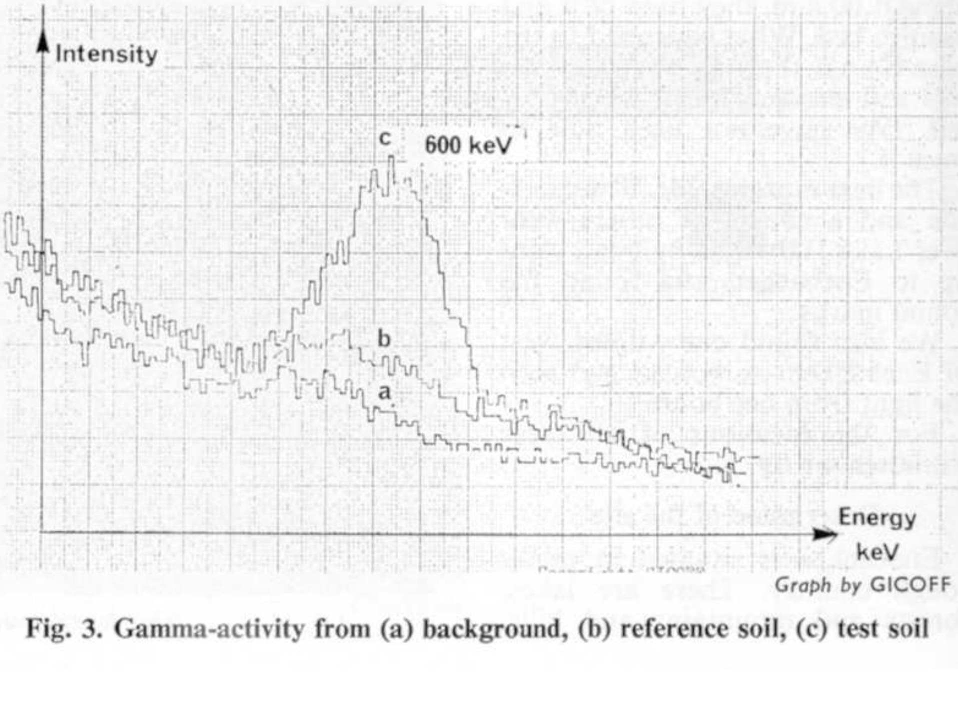


Fig. 3. Gamma-activity from (a) background, (b) reference soil, (c) test soil

Mr. E. Johansson said the light went out. Did it do that, or did it only go down below the treetops? If it went out, does that prove it was a hoax?

We do not think this is the end of this story, but we have decided to publish the results so far and we hope that some new facts will come to light in consequence.

This case-report has been prepared by GICOFF. All information presented is based on GICOFF's investigation. We have not used any second-hand material. I have shortened the report a little and translated it into English.

* * *

Comment by R. H. B. Winder:

With great respect to the investigators, who seem for the most part to have done a very good job, the scientific examination, although it sounds impressive, is actually a little weak. They ought, for example' to have considered chemical tests to confirm the presence of Cerium—my professional chemist friend tells me this—and they ought to have been more specific about the sample. If it consisted of the ashes from the mark the burning might well have concentrated material deposited from the atmosphere. The suggestion that it came from a nuclear propulsion system, or the like, is *not* supported by the evidence.

THE AIRSHIP WAVE OF 1909—Pt. 2

Carl Grove

THE opening part of this survey listed 18 reports of unconventional aerial phenomena rather similar to the 1896-7 U.S. "airship." Most of the reports originated in East Anglia during March to mid-May, 1909.

The following 25 reports conclude this preliminary listing, and cover the second part of May. During this period the geographical focus of the phenomenon shifted to South Wales and extended into Ireland.

19. May 14. **North Sea.** The steamer *St. Olaf*, a Norwegian trading vessel, was a short way out from Blyth, Northumberland, when a large airship carrying five searchlights suddenly appeared. Hovering above the *St. Olaf*, it directed all its lights on to the steamer's bridge. It was within hail, Captain Egenes reported, but gave no answer to the challenge, and in the glare of the searchlights no detail could be seen.

Suddenly the airship swung off after another steamer a mile or so away, and directed the searchlights upon that. It afterwards made off at a sharp rate towards the south. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 19.)

20. May 14. **West Green, East London.** At 3.30 a.m., several railwaymen at West Green station saw a long black object, without lights, travelling northeast at a fast pace. No sound was heard, as an engine was letting off steam. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 21.)

21. May 15. **Yarmouth, Norfolk.** Mrs. Fricks, a nurse, saw a balloon-like object hovering over the northern outskirts of the town in the morning. It showed a white light, then a green, then a red. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 19.)

22. May 15. **Newport, Monmouth.** G. Beanland and A. V. Day, at the local flour mill, sighted a cigar-shaped dark object stationary over Newport Bridge, shortly after 1.00 a.m. Searchlights flashed from each end on to the bridge. After 10 minutes one of the lights went out, and the object flew off towards Stow Hill. (*South Wales Daily News*, Cardiff, May 17.)

23. May 15. **Northampton.** A policeman and others sighted an airship, carrying lights, crossing the town at 9.15 p.m. Chief Const. Mardlin reported that this was a fire-balloon, carrying lanterns, sent up as a hoax by some young men. (*Daily Mail*, London; *Daily Mirror*, London, May 17.)

24. May 16. **Lowestoft, Suffolk.** At 1.30 a.m., Mrs. Wigg was awakened by a noise similar to that of a motor-car. Looking through the window directly opposite her bed, she saw a dark object pass fairly quickly, heading southwest. It was not very high, and was bottle-shaped, in a horizontal position, and of considerable length; she saw what appeared to be a man steering at the front of the machine. Several other people saw vivid flashes of light or heard engine sounds at that time. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 18-19.)

25. May 16. **Broome, Suffolk.** Capt. Hervey, Local Government Board Inspector for the Eastern District, saw a cigar-shaped balloon sailing towards Lowestoft at about 7.45 p.m. It was 3-4 miles distant, and a quarter of a mile high, and moving against a strong north-easterly wind. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 18.)

26. May 16. **Monmouth.** A well-known auctioneer, Oliver Jones, was driving from Treginach to Monmouth. "It was about eight miles from Monmouth when I first saw it. It came from the direction of Usk and Raglan, and seemed to go towards Chepstow. It then turned right round and came back towards Raglan and over the mountain.

"I continued to drive slowly on, and watched it for about half an hour. I was driving eight or ten miles an hour, but the airship seemed to go faster than that. It went up and down and around in a remarkable manner. There were lights in front and behind, and they seemed to be about 15 yards apart. I could see the cigar-shape quite distinctly, and noticed the perfect control the occupants had over the airship." There were four lights in front and one behind, and four others saw the object. (*South Wales Daily News; Evening News*, May 20.)

27. May 17. **Belfast, Ireland.** About 10 p.m., a bright light was seen in the direction of Colin Mountain. It was moving, and many people in the southern part of

Belfast began to watch. It was very high, and steadily approached, at times dipping towards the ground. The night was fairly dark, and it was not until the light came over the Lisburn Road area that "it was just possible to distinguish in the gloom a long-shaped object."

Some of the witnesses saw a red light flash from it several times, and when it had got a mile past the mountain it slackened speed somewhat. Finally it rose to a very great height and disappeared rapidly in an easterly direction. No sound was heard. (*Belfast Evening Telegraph*, May 18.)

28. May 17. **Brecon, Wales.** Lichfield, the chauffeur to Archdeacon Bevan, distinctly saw an object carrying lights about midnight. (*Evening News*, May 20.)

29. May 18. **North Sea.** Ostend fishermen saw a dirigible manoeuvring ten miles off Hull. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 21.)

30. May 18. **Caerphilly Mountain.** C. Lethbridge, "an elderly man, of quiet demeanour, (who) did not strike one as given to romancing," worked in the winter at Cardiff Docks, but in the summer travelled the area giving Punch-and-Judy shows at the local schools. At about 11.00 p.m., he was returning home from Senghenydd across Caerphilly Mountain, a desolate and lonely area with few houses.

Turning the bend at the summit, he was shocked to see, lying to the right of the road, a large tube-shaped object which he first took to be "some big bird." Nearby were two tall, smart-looking young men, with a military bearing—in fact, Lethbridge found himself referring to them as "two officers." They were wearing big, heavy fur coats, and tight-fitting fur caps. Scared, Lethbridge continued towards them.

The men were busily engaged with some work at the roadside, and did not notice Lethbridge until he had come within 20 to 30 yards of them. The rattle of his spring-cart attracted them, and they jumped up "and jabbered furiously to each other in a strange lingo— Welsh or something else; it was certainly not English." They appeared to pick something from the ground, and jumped into a little carriage suspended under the cigar. The object "switchbacked" into the air in a zig-zag fashion, and when it had cleared the telegraph pole and wires two lights like electric lamps shone out. Making "an awful noise" like an engine working, the object rose higher and flew away towards Cardiff.

After Lethbridge had told his story in Cardiff, a party of investigators returned to the site. There were signs of trampling in the grass, and a small collection of curious objects was discovered. The first was a red label, attached to a chain and metal pin, with some instructions printed in French. This was later found to be a spare part for a tyre valve, distributed by the French branches of the Michelin Tyre Company. English pins of the same sort sold at 1d., but pins carrying the French labels were not obtainable in Britain at that time.

The second of the finds was a piece of notepaper, cut in half, bearing the letterhead of a firm of stockbrokers in London. Faint outlines of a typewritten message were just visible on the lower half: "provincial centres . . . rest assured that we shall not . . . the fullest confidence . . . this letter is amply justified . . ." The head of the firm disclaimed all knowledge of airships, and knew nothing about the letter.

There were many scraps of paper lying about. These included newspaper cuttings about airships; a quantity of pulpy, papier-mache-type wads, thought to have been used in packaging; and a couple of dozen small bits of well-made blue paper bearing a mass of figures and letters. The lid of a tin of metal polish was also found.

After Lethbridge's account was first published, a Cardiff stockbroker's clerk came forward with an odd story. On the morning of Sunday, May 16, he had seen five "foreigners" surveying and photographing the Caerphilly district. They were driven from spot to spot in a couple of traps, and took photos with cameras fixed above the seats of the traps. They were also seen at a spot a mile and a half away, where three of the five were said to be carrying cameras. About noon they drove away, and separated at Beulah, one party taking the road to Llanishen, the other driving to Cardiff. (*South Wales Daily News*, May 20-21; *Weekly Dispatch*, May 23; *Daily Mail*, May 20; *Daily Mirror*, May 21.)

31. May 19. **Cardiff.** Two hours after Lethbridge's meeting with the "officers", an airship was seen by several workers on the Cardiff Docks, and by the third mate of the steamer *Arndale*, which was being loaded at the time.

Robert Westlake stated: "At 1.15 this morning . . . while attending to my duty, signalling trains at the King's Junction, Queen Alexandra Dock, I was startled by a weird object flying in the air. In appearance it resembled a boat of cigar shape. A whirring noise came from it. It was lit up by two lights, which could be plainly seen. It was travelling at a great rate, and was elevated at a distance of half-a-mile, making from the eastward."

C. Harwood, the traffic foreman, commented: "The airship took a wide curve from the direction of Newport, and, though high up, could be plainly seen against the clear sky, even had it not been lit up by the two lights . . . And we all heard distinctly the whirr of its driving gear. It seemed to hover over the docks for a few seconds, and then swept away across the channel, and the lights were extinguished as it passed away to the eastward."

The object was red in colour, and a coaltrimmer on the *Arndale*, W. John, reported seeing "trellis work" on it. Another witness claimed that "Had the Dowlais Works blast been on, we should have had the airship clearly discovered, but we saw enough to put at rest all doubts about it." Estimates of duration varied between one and four minutes; it would have been visible longer but for the sudden extinguishing of the lights. (*South Wales Daily News*, May 20; *Weekly Dispatch*, May 23.)

32. May 19. **Maindee, Newport.** About 8.00 a.m., W. Beighton's little girl pointed out a "big fowl" which would "flap" at times. It came from the Bristol Channel, standing still on occasion, and moving away about 8.30 a.m. Two others saw the object; one, using a telescope, said that the craft was 12 to 15 yards long and was carrying three men. (*South Wales Daily News*, May 21.)

33. May 19. **Shoeburyness, Essex.** At dusk, a Royal Artillery sergeant saw something manoeuvring at a considerable height. It was lost to view in the darkness. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 21.)

34. May 19. **Pontypool, Monmouth.** About 9.30 p.m., night duty workers at the town forge sighted a cigar-

shaped object with a powerful light at the tail. It travelled "speedily and gracefully" to a point over the forge, "and then darted off in another direction, practically at right angles to that from which it arrived." Two post office officials said that the light "quivered considerably."

Architect Garth Fisher and his wife, at Penygarn, a village overlooking Pontypool, described a cigar-shaped object which flew directly overhead. In the glare of its light they saw something "like striped canvas," and it was last seen heading north. Three 6-foot fire balloons were known to be in the area. (*Evening News*, May 20; *East Anglian Daily Times; South Wales Daily News*, May 21.)

35. May 19. **Norwich, Norfolk.** Mrs. Turner, returning home at 11.30 p.m.: "As I came into my street, a flash of light came on me all of a sudden, and made the street look like day . . . I could hear a noise like the whizzing of wheels. I looked up, and there I saw a big star of light in front and a big searchlight behind. I saw no body of an airship; I only saw the light and heard the noises. It was coming from the N.N.E., from the direction of the Angel Road School, and flying very low, so low that it would have touched the pinnacle of the school had it passed directly over it."

36. May 19. **Wroxham, Norfolk.** "A well-known gentleman who resides at Wroxham . . . was motor-cycling home on Wednesday night, and had just reached the bridge over the river, when the light of his lamp went out. This was at about 11.30, or probably just before. While he was examining his lamp, what he describes as a flashlight was directed upon him from above, and kept upon him for half a minute. He was dazzled by the light, and could not see any airship, nor did he detect any sound . . . on reaching home, his brother told him that while at Sprowston (a village some few miles distant) that same night, he saw a strange light in the sky, and could not see from whence it came."

37. May 19. **Thurston, Norfolk.** Mr. Chatten, a grocer's assistant, was cycling home to Thurston about midnight. "I was dazzled by a bright light shining from right above me. The trees and hedges were lit up brilliantly. I have seen a naval searchlight at Harwich, and I should suppose that what I saw was something of that sort, but there was a bluish tinge, and it did not appear to me so strong as the naval lights. It seemed to be switched off again after only a few seconds.

"Getting off my bicycle and looking upwards, I saw a long, cigar-shaped object, some three or four hundred feet above me. It was soaring upwards, the tapering end going foremost, and was moving rapidly in the direction of Norwich. On the under side was what I should call a bar, supporting a sort of framework, a yellow light shining at each end. I could not see any men upon the framework, nor could I hear any buzzing sound, such as a motor would cause, but that is not to be wondered at, because, although the night was still, the thing was travelling at a great height." (Cases 35-37: *East Anglian Daily Times*, May 21.)

38. May 19. **Framlingham, Suffolk.** At midnight, an ostler named Hadley, and two others, saw a lighted airship. (*Evening News*, May 20.)

39. May 20. **Dublin, Ireland.** Just after midnight a cyclist saw a cigar-shaped body, two clear lights in front, travelling at a considerable pace. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 22.)

40. May 20. **Dennybrook, Dublin.** Just before 8.00 p.m. many people saw a football-shaped object moving rapidly to the southwest. (*East Anglian Daily Times*, May 22.)

41. May 22. **Maesteg, Glamorgan.** At 10.30 p.m., a rumour spread through Commercial Street that the airship was overhead. Many saw lights only. One, using a telescope, claimed to see people on board. (*South Wales Daily News*, May 24.)

42. May 22. **Aberystwyth, Cardigan.** 14 witnesses saw bright lights burst into view like an electric lamp. "The lights were travelling in from the sea heading south-east. At one point . . . the lower light was flashed on to the sea and it looked very much like a searchlight." The lights hovered two miles offshore, then moved towards the pierhead and disappeared. The lights were so bright that at first the witnesses thought it was moonlight. The object appeared to be searching the bay. (*South Wales Daily News*, May 24.)

43. May 24. **Swansea.** P-c Williams and a man named Bell saw an airship with a bright light under it heading northwest. P-c Johnston saw a "bright moving light," but would not swear to its being an airship. (*South Wales Daily News*, May 26.)

Discussion

The 1909 airship may constitute a significant link between the earlier American sightings and the 20th Century development of the UFO phenomenon. While fantastic landing and contact reports are largely absent from the cases reviewed above, this should not lessen their impact. Witnesses seem to have been of high reliability and described their experiences without embellishment, coming forward to face hostile and often vicious criticism in the press.

The published accounts contain many elements of interest. Note the airship's bright searchlights and remarkable performance; the right-angle turn in case 34 (which, however, may have a conventional explanation); the cluster around Norwich (cases 35-37); the motor-cyclist's lamp in case 36; and the five reports of occupants. Incidental to cases 9 and 30 are the stories of mysterious "foreigners" who engaged in some odd behaviour on the same day in places 200 miles apart. Clearly these events may be interpreted only within the context of a general discussion of the interaction between the phenomenon itself and the situation in which it appears.

It is to be hoped that British researchers soon begin a thorough study of these early events. The newspaper files for 1909 and 1913 contain a mass of data which has not seen the light of day for 60 years: retrieving these data is a remarkably easy process. It is difficult to make predictions about the total number of reports such a study might uncover, but preliminary investigation suggests that there were perhaps as many as 150 sightings made during this period.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to ackowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Classification of UFO Books in Public Libraries

Dear Sir,—The UFO books in Otley Library (which is a branch of the West Riding County Library) are classified under the Dewey classification of 629.138.

This means that they are intermingled with astronautics and space technology and of course assumes that UFOs are space vehicles. This even includes works like "The Humanoids" which are not directly concerned with the machines themselves (if they *are* machines that is). Michel's "Flying Saucer Vision" is classed as 133, which puts it in the occult section along with ghost and witches, etc.; "Chariots of the Gods" is 291.21, which is something like comparative religion!

I find it utterly astounding that a library is re-classifying them as fiction. Fiction is a work of the imagination, so you can see the implication there.

I soberly suggest that some higher official has a bee in his bonnet about the subject and is attempting to make it look ridiculous. There is obviously some weighty influence behind a decision like that.

I suggest you confront them and ask them what they are playing at and why.

Yours sincerely,
K. M. Anderson, Headingley, Leeds.

[*The reference to re-classification of UFO books as fiction followed my reply to an earlier letter from this reader. I think it a good idea that we keep an eye open for this sort of nonsense. Perhaps we should make a concerted effort and push for a new classification under "Ufology", for, after all, BRAD (British Rate and Data) list FSR, FSR Case Histories, and three other magazines under that classification*—EDITOR.]

Of Men, Cats and Magonia

Aimé Michel has forwarded, for the edification of FSR's readers, copies of letters that are parts of a brief but amusing correspondence.

From Jacques Bergier to Aimé Michel:

Dear Aimé Michel,—I have read with the greatest interest, in the FSR, your conversation with your cat. I told my cat Grouni about it, and he remarked:

"It's interesting, but it does not pursue the idea to its conclusion. If a contact between different species must inevitably end in domestication, then one must ask oneself the further question: *domestication of whom?* In the case of contact between man and cat, it is the man that has been domesticated."

With all very best wishes,
Jacques Bergier, Paris, November 2, 1970.

From Aimé Michel to Jacques Bergier:

My dear Jacques,—History will record that, on November 2, 1970, Grouni but forward the first rational explanation for non-contact: "They" are afraid of being domesticated by man, *and, consequently, by the cat.*

All the best,
Aimé Michel.

(*Translated by G. Creighton.*)

[Jacques Bergier is co-author with Louis Pauwels, of the best-selling book *The Dawn of Magic.*]

A new model?

Dear Sir,—I still remember the great surprise I felt when I saw for the first time, several months ago, the negatives of the La Souterraine photographs (see "Luminous objects over La Souterraine", by Jean-Claude Baillon, FSR Case Histories, Supplement 1, October 1970, pp. 9-12).

Dr. Pierre Guérin's and Percy Hennell's comments are, as far as I can judge, sensible. But it may be of some use to emphasise that, as it seems (however, one must keep in mind Dr. Guérin's second comment), this kind of phenomenon (it's rather difficult to call this flying protoplasm an "object" . . .), of an *apparently* non-symmetrical changing shape, didn't manifest its odd presence only on September 3, 1969.

Apart from the Solange Barthelot-Pierre Picoty (where is the latter's sketch, mentioned by J-C.B.?) sighting, there are some possibly comparable cases.

For example, on February 25, 1970, several witnesses saw a "squiggly" or S-shaped phenomenon which crossed the sky over Greystones, Eire. Ten minutes later, a "similar" phenomenon followed the first "on the same south to north route". Both were spotted against the clouded ceiling: therefore they must have been under it. Police sergeant John Hughes succeeded in taking five pictures of the second phenomenon. Each one shows an irregular luminous shape different from the other. The second resembles somewhat the "photograph 1" of M. Laguide, and the fifth the "photograph 3". Mere coincidence, or a new type of phenomenon?

Just as among Ufologists, there now seems to exist a wider-than-ever range of designs among the UFO manufacturers!

Yours truly,
Hervé Matte, Paris, November 25, 1970.

Warminster incident of January 1970—extra detail and necessary corrections

Sir,—As co-witness of Arthur Shuttlewood's sighting of January 18, 1970, which is reported by him under "Ellipsoid, Plume and Pyramid" in FSR, Vol. 16, No. 4, it seems to me that the most important aspect of the case has been omitted. There were, in fact, two other independent witnesses! From their house just off the Boreham Road (name and address available), they saw the bright golden source of light descend vertically over Cop Heap until it went out of view behind it. From this and our own bearing on the "object", we located it precisely over the approach road to Cradle Hill at a point midway between Cop Heap and the steep slope of Arn Hill, at a distance of $\frac{5}{8}$ mile from where we stood at the gates intersection on Cradle Hill.

Furthermore January 18 was a Sunday, and the "object" was not located over or close by territory used by the infantry at Warminster for manoeuvres or exercises. I mention these last two points because the army produce a variety of luminous aerial phenomena during exercises. We are both familiar with these phenomena and from this and the data we have on manoeuvres we can safely exclude such explanations as flares. The details of the sequence of events and the appearance of the "object" in any case rule out such an explanation.

Since we know nothing of the dimensions of the "object" in the line of sight of the observers, it seems to me inappropriate to refer to what was seen as an ellipse as an ellipsoid, and what was seen as a triangle as a pyramid. Furthermore, the plume was seen to be thread-like, and lighter in tone than the greys of the distant horizon, not silver.

John Roseweir, B.Sc., 32 Sydenham Road, Cotham, Bristol 6.

Mystery Aeroplanes

Sir,—John A. Keel's articles in *Flying Saucer Review* on "Mystery Aeroplanes of the 1930s" brings to mind an experience which my brother, I. F. Sloane, and I had on Sunday, August 23, 1914, at Savernake, New South Wales, 18 miles north of Yarrawonga on the river Murray. We were then 11 and 12 years of age, and were among the few people in the district who had seen an aeroplane, having been taken to Melbourne by our parents the previous December to see the late Harry Hawker fly his Sopwith biplane.

Savernake, being heavily timbered, is named after the forest in England, and, although much of the district is now cleared for farming, our home, where my brother still lives, is situated on a 30ft. sand dune surrounded for a mile on every side by a 60ft. forest.

At sunrise we suddenly heard the sound of an aeroplane coming from the South-East and we ran outside to try to see it, but it was flying too low among the trees. For several minutes we heard it passing, going North about half-a-mile away, and then it came into view in a clearing to the North-East. We both saw it as a biplane, turning away to the East, half-a-mile away, at an altitude of about 100ft. The rays of the rising sun did not reflect from it, but the two wings appeared black against the sunlight which made observation difficult.

There were several farms, and a township of 50 people, three miles away in the direction in which it went, but no one else in the district heard or saw the plane. The weather was thundery and it could have gone up into clouds. Our parents heard the engine from inside the house, and called out: "What is that." We shouted back: "It's an aeroplane."

The Australian Flying Corps at that time consisted of five aeroplanes stationed at Point Cook, on open plains near Melbourne, where it was considered safer for flying. It was absurd that one of these precious craft would be flying recklessly at sunrise 180 miles from its base [beyond its range?—ED.). There were no civil planes in the district, and so people generally were sceptical of our sighting. John Keel has given us an explanation which makes the incident seem even more mysterious.

Howard Sloane, Mount Clear, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, 3350.

Mystery cyphers

Sir,—Mr. Creighton's letter (*in FSR 16-5, September-October 1970; pp. 29-30*) takes Domnul Florin Gheorghită and myself to task for, apparently, failing to observe the discrepancies between the 7th letter of the Russian (Cyrillic) alphabet, Ж, and the five reported variants of the emblem, seen on the lower portion of the UFO allegedly photographed at San José de Valderas, in Spain (*cf.* the French review *Phénomènes Spatiaux* 22; Paris, December 1969; pages 20, 21, 23, 24, and the front cover-picture). These variants are, admittedly, puzzling; however, even Mr. Creighton—whose erudition is now beyond doubt—may not be aware that countless people use the reported variant)+(, especially in careful script style, as opposed to regular cursive styles. (Being in the midst of a Russian lexicographical project, I handle a good deal of written Slavonic material; and my acquaintance with certain variants began a very long time ago, when I was editing a small handbook for students of Russian.)

It is unprofitable to make an issue out of a minute difference, especially when the latter (as here) does not affect the total meaning; in any case, the existence of five variants reported shows that the actual symbol is still in some doubt. One wonders—next time a witness says that a UFO showed "some resemblance" to the full moon —whether he should be reminded that it is, nevertheless, *not* the full moon, since the Man-in-the-moon's face was not seen on the UFO.

I think Mr. Creighton's humour did not react to the somewhat flippant mood of my letter. Does he believe, I wonder, that I really imagine UFOs originate in the Soviet Union? Would that the solution were along some such simple lines.

P. M. H. Edwards, Victoria (B.C.), Canada.

[*It is difficult to understand why Dr. Edwards poses a problem for many of our readers by quoting an article which appeared in* Phénomènes Spatiaux. *The piece in question was a translation of Antonio Ribera's article which was published, with photographs on which the cypher is clearly shown—including the cover illustration—in* Flying Saucer Review *for September/October 1969*—EDITOR.]

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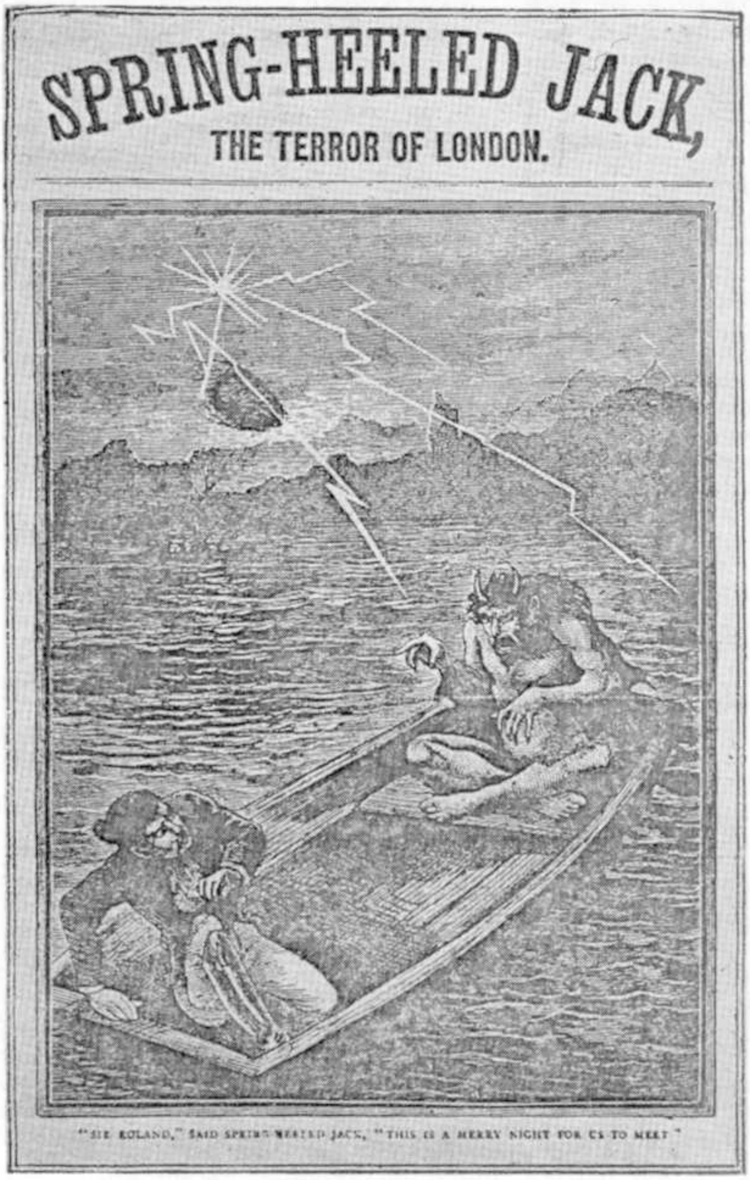
SPRING HEEL JACK: VICTORIAN HUMANOID?

Roger Sandell

A STRANGE tale appeared in the issue of the *Annual Register* for 1838. A frightful being had been terrifying late night strollers in various parts of London, notably Barnes Common. Witnesses spoke of a luminous figure capable of jumping incredible distances. Such was the fear generated that appeals for help had gone out to the Lord Mayor of London.

Incredible as this report seemed, the then recently formed Metropolitan Police had reason to know that behind the rumours was a solid basis of fact. In February 1838 they had investigated the case of Miss Jane Alsop of Bearbird Lane near Bow.



Victorian "twopenny blood"

Miss Alsop told the police how late one night she had heard a voice calling to her to bring a lantern as the police had caught Spring Heel Jack (as the being was commonly known) nearby. As she took a lantern and hurried down the road to approach the person who had called out, she discovered that there were no policemen, and that the voice that had called her was that of Spring Heel Jack himself.

She described the being as a tall, luminous creature, clad in a metal helmet and an oilskin-like garment, spitting fire from his mouth. As her screams roused her family the creature leapt off, but not before scratching her face with a claw-like hand.

When the police arrived, the marks on her face were still visible. In any case, as supporting evidence, they had an independent report from a Mr. Scales of Limehouse, who claimed that his daughter had, late one night, been attacked by a tall luminous figure.[1]

Had these reports appeared in the press today it is possible that the creature would have been described as a "man from outer space". The helmet and oilskin garment may well have been described as a "space suit". Even the luminescence,[2] and the incredible jumping ability,[3] can be paralleled in many modern reports. However, at the time, various other ideas were put forward.

One school of thought held that Spring Heel Jack was a kangaroo which, as part of a circus act, had been dressed up and had then escaped. Others held that those responsible were a gang of footpads who used this means to frighten off witnesses to their activities. Another rumour stated that Spring Heel Jack was, in reality, the Marquis of Waterford, a deranged peer whose behaviour had led to his arrest on various occasions. Yet another version appeared in "Spring Heel Jack, the Terror of London", a series of Victorian cheap novels. In these, Spring Heel Jack became a "Batman"-style of character who defended the virtuous, and donned his fearsome disguise solely to frighten evil-doers.

Eerie "visitor" at Peckham

In spite of these tales, factual accounts of appearances of Spring Heel Jack crop up at other times during the Victorian era. One such comes from the *News of the World* of November 17, 1872. The report opens by recalling the Spring Heel Jack cases of the 1830s, and states that in spite of improvements in street lighting and the police force, a similar being seems to have taken up residence in Peckham, in South-East London. The reporter describes the strange tales circulating:

"We can hardly be expected to credit that the figure is eight feet in height, springs over stone walls

and lofty hedges, and on nearing a victim changes from grim blackness to luminous white."

However, two factual cases are offered. The first, of little value in its present form, merely tells how an undescribed figure ran across Lordship Lane, frightening an anonymous carter. The other report is far more detailed:

"On the evening of Sunday week, the two daughters of Dr. Carver, the head master of Dulwich College, young girls aged from fourteen to sixteen years were, with their governess, setting out for church. The younger had just passed through the open doorway to the step when she saw, moving rapidly towards her across the drive, at about eight to ten yards distance, a figure enveloped in white and with arms extended. Startled, the young lady screamed and sprang hastily back into the porch, communicating her fear to her companions. They meanwhile had caught sight of the miscreant but were unable to observe in which direction he made his escape. On the following morning traces were discovered in the grass of someone having stationed himself behind a small shrubbery."

The report also tells us that, some months before, Peckham had been the scene of the activities of a window-smashing poltergeist.

Scaring the sentries

The files of the *Illustrated Police News*[4] for 1877 contain several interesting reports. The issue of April 28 tells us:

"A curious story comes from Aldershot. For some time past, the sentries on two outlying posts have been frightened by the appearance at night of two spectral figures. The figures, glowing with phosphorus, are in the habit of suddenly manifesting themselves, making tremendous springs of ten or twelve yards at a time and upsetting the sentry before he has been able to collect himself sufficiently to oppose earthly arms to his ghostly visitants. The latter do him no bodily injury, contenting themselves with upsetting the poor man, after which they mysteriously disappear. So great has been the alarm that it has been found necessary to post double sentries."

Like many modern press reports, this story is treated rather facetiously, the reporter suggesting that the entities are the spirits of dead army officers, protesting about government plans to stamp out corruption in the army.

Methods reminiscent of Kelly-Hopkinsville entities

The *Illustrated Police News* of September 8, 1877, described how the Aldershot manifestations had continued:

"Suspicion chiefly centred on one corps for the reason that the ghost had only been seen where this regiment was stationed. The corps in question has now left Aldershot and the authorities were much astonished when they learned that Spring Heel Jack had reappeared. His method of proceeding seems to be to approach unobserved some post, then climb the sentry box and pass his hand across the face of the sentinel. The reappearance of the ghost has caused a great sensation and the authorities seem determined to exhaust every means of discovering the culprit."

The November 3, 1877, issue of the same paper includes a report of some interest in spite of the preconceived explanation of the writer:

"For some time Newport, near Lincoln, has been disturbed by a man dressed in a sheepskin or something of the kind. The man has springs on his boots and can jump a height of 15 feet. The other night he jumped on a college, got into a window by the roof and so frightened the ladies that one has not yet recovered."

The writer states that on one occasion Spring Heel Jack was chased by a crowd which found him to be immune to bullets:

"As he was running on the wall of the new barracks he was shot at by a publican but the shot did not appear to take effect." [*The publican could have missed*—EDITOR.]

Although the size of this being is not mentioned, its agility and immunity to bullets are reminiscent of the "little men" seen at Hopkinsville, Kentucky, in 1955.[5] The Hopkinsville witnesses also stated that the creatures leaped on to the roof and put their hands down to feel the witnesses' heads, as Spring Heel Jack is reported to have done at Aldershot. The mention of the sheepskin is also interesting when we compare it with some South American cases of hairy, agile dwarfs with bodies immune to weapons.[6]

In addition to these reports there are probably other

(*Continued on Page 23*)

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MUZIO'S CONTACTS

And other recent Brazilian cases

Nigel Rimes

LAST July I went to the little coastal town of Parati, 200 km. south-west of Rio, for a holiday. Although few of the people I talked to had heard of flying saucers, I learned from a fisherman's wife that she had seen the Mâe de Ouro (Mother of Gold) type of UFO the previous month. It is a well-known phenomenon throughout the length and breadth of Brazil, and is described as a large, fiery ball, usually golden in colour and often with a golden tail, which throws off brilliant flashes and "tears of gold" as it crosses the sky. In Parati it is said to appear once every seven years, and the fisherman's wife described the object as larger and brighter than the full moon. While throwing off the "golden tears" which fell in a stream behind it, the object crossed the sky at a low altitude, illuminating the whole valley and surrounding hills before it vanished in only a few seconds behind mountains.

Personal sighting

Back in São Paulo, on Sunday, July 19, just after a squadron of seven FAB fighters had crossed the sky at 3.30 p.m. heading south, I saw a brilliant pinhead of light at extreme altitude heading slowly west. Through 7 × 50 binoculars the object looked like a shining yellow pearl. At first I thought it might be a hydrogen-filled balloon, but it was much higher than the aircraft in the vicinity and eventually stopped overhead and hung absolutely motionless, in spite of a strong easterly wind, for about three minutes. The object, which was a perfect sphere and seemed to be reflecting light rather than producing it, finally moved off south at a slowly increasing speed and vanished behind some buildings.

Turibio again

At 2.30 on the same afternoon, Turibio Pereira was having an afternoon nap when he had a vivid dream similar to the one mentioned in my last report. In this dream he was again confronted by the same flying saucer and crew members. He was fairly certain that this time the man who spoke to him was the one who had been handling what Turibio called the "keyboard" during the actual contact two years ago. On this occasion, in the dream state, Turibio was told that he had been cured of the ill effects caused by the ray and that "they" would not again contact him in this manner.

During the dream Turibio said he felt electric shocks in his intestines, but they were not too bad. The entity said "they" were not responsible for Turibio's present state of health, which had been caused by germs (Turibio later wanted to know what germs were). The general content of the message then given to him was: "When you (humanity) have fully evolved, you will know what true beauty is." Another comment during the dream was: "We can hear all the sounds around you."

On waking up, Turibio felt ill for the rest of the afternoon. His head seemed to be echoing with a sort of "radio humming". (NB: Since Turibio had his nerve-racking experience he has been interrogated hundreds of times and over a hundred recordings have been made. The final recording was made on the evening of Saturday, August 8. In all the recordings, not a single contradiction has been found.)

Múzio's story

The following story was carried in the August 4, 1970, edition of *O Cruzeiro:*

THEY ARE ALREADY AMONG US

Luis Múzio Ambrosio, a medium from Minas Gerais, is yet another man to see flying saucers. From the verandah of his house he has seen the ships and has received messages from them. Now he is getting ready for trips into space.

At first we weren't sure what he meant when he threw in a comment during a conversation about certain objects. But Múzio insisted: "It is absolutely true. They are already among us. First they carried out a reconnaissance over a period of several years by our calendar. Then they saw that the time had come to land and observe us from closer quarters, to feel all sensations."

As you talk to the medium, it all becomes clearer. "They", to whom he refers, are nothing more nor less than extra-terrestrials—from Venus, to be more precise—who take human form and are living among humanity on a reconnaissance mission. Outside, in a large tent, hundreds of people await their turn for communication with spirit entities through the medium. Restless, talkative and revealing an average level of culture—he is well-informed in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics—he recalls the first manifestation of beings from other planets.

"It was in 1964. I lived with my family in the district of Sagrada Familia in a modest little house. One night in June I was lying down. Suddenly, I saw yellow-orange lights enter my room, even though the doors and windows were closed. Then a strange force began to dominate my mind. It was at this moment that I heard a voice I shall never forget: 'We are friends and we are in our spaceship on the roof of your house.'

"I was astounded. Cold beat against me and entered my brain while the message took absolute control of my consciousness. I was completely paralysed and remained so for several moments, until my attention was caught by the voices of children playing in the street outside. The boys were shouting and agitated. I ran after a 12-year-old to ask him why they were all so frightened. Stammering with fear, the boy said he had seen a strange

object on the roof of my house, emitting wonderful lights which stopped when the boys began to shout.

"Suddenly, the thing vanished at frightening speed—according to the boy. Neighbours came to their windows and confirmed his story. This was my first telepathic contact with these creatures, even though I didn't actually see the machine."

A YEAR OF DECISIONS

"The year 1967"—continued Múzio—"was one of important decisions in my life. Following advice given by my spirit mentors, I moved to the district of Eldorado.

"One night, from the verandah of my house, I observed a luminous object moving slowly across the sky at an altitude of about 1,000 metres. I knew it wasn't an aeroplane, nor was it anything known to us, since it was emitting light such as I had never witnessed before.

"Suddenly, it came nearer—to within 150 metres—and then stopped, swaying gently in the air for a moment as if it were trying to attract my attention and that of two friends who were present. Afterwards it flew off rapidly towards the south of Minas.

"Two days later, I saw another strange object near my house. It was not a celestial body, since it moved with an oscillating motion. Then it came down to within 300 metres and, as it came closer, it grew bigger and the constant bluish-green light increased in brightness. It stayed there in the sky for an hour. Then it began to flash on and off as if trying to transmit some message. I got a torch and exchanged flashes with the ship and noticed with surprise that it responded to my signals. It was then that the object seemed to descend to land. In doing so it seemed to vanish from my sight, since from that angle I couldn't follow it."

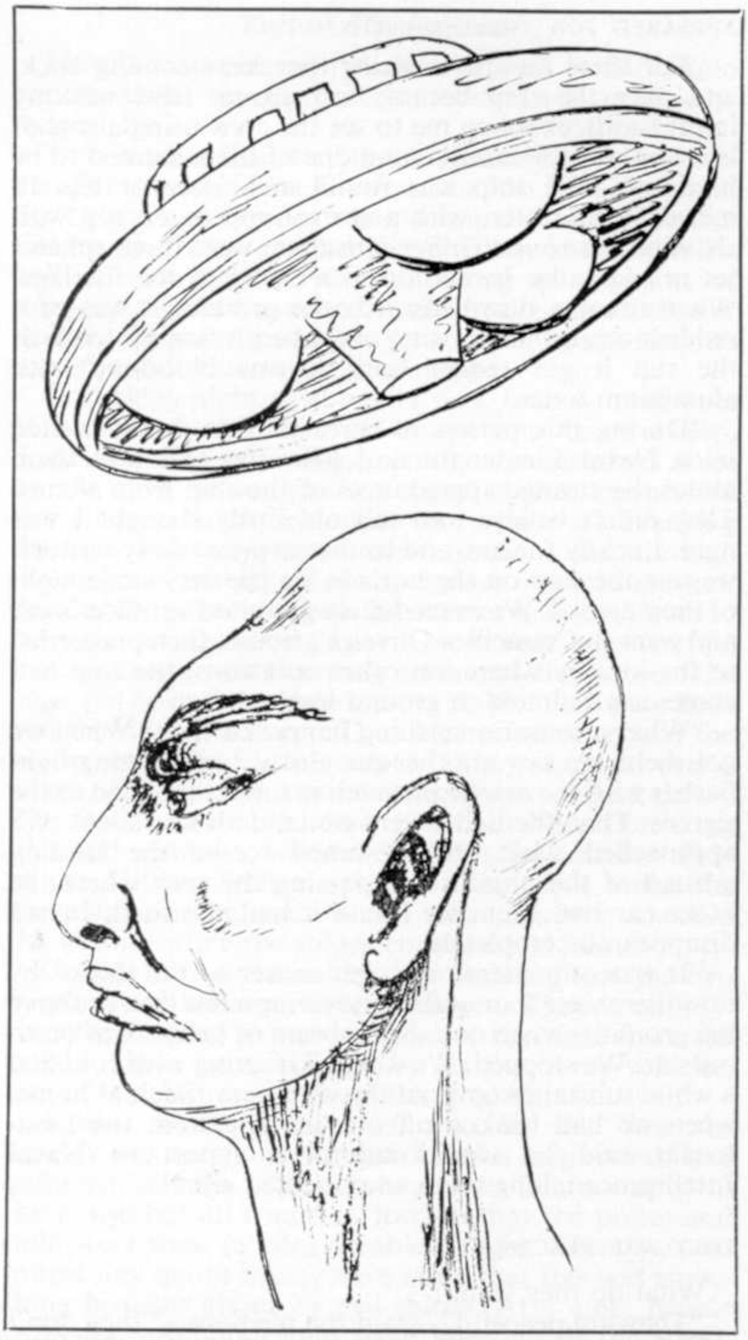
VERY STRONG LIGHT

"As the same thing continued to happen on the following nights"—said Múzio—"I went to my friend Jose Custodio de Oliveira, Town Councillor in Contagem, and told him about it all. He had a car and it would be easier to work together as we could go out to the place where the ship appeared to be landing.

"One night, at about 7 p.m., we saw the object coming closer and flashing its light on and off continuously. We set off in the car towards Contagem and saw the object come down to a very low altitude—almost touching the ground.

"On this occasion we did not get really close. On another night, near the town of Betim, we saw the machine at a distance of 400 metres. From our position we felt that the local temperature—normally about 20°C.—had suddenly dropped to about 6° and we seemed to be turning to ice. After the object had flown away, we discovered that the place where it had landed was burnt and a circle of vegetation dried out.

"The next night, we again saw the strange machine heading towards a deserted region not far from my house—an area which I believe to be a landing ground for these objects. When we got there the object was about 1 metre from the ground, swaying in the air, and we approached to within 50 metres. We flashed the car lights and the object responded, but when I tried to



All in the mind? "Saucer" and occupant according to Múzio

get out of the car and go towards the object, it emitted a brilliant green light which shone directly on my chest and reflected on the car bonnet.

"There was a strange thing about this beam of light: it came directly on to one without any sort of dispersion and had a marked effect on one's cerebral control, dominating thought and movements. Even though I had had every intention of getting out of the car and approaching the object, as soon as the light came on and struck me my will-power was completely dominated. The beam worked directly on my brain. The light was cold steel and magnetic—rather like neon, but much more intense and beautiful. Suddenly, it crept up my chest to my head and this was when I heard the voice for the second time, saying: 'We are friends and we come from the planet Venus . . . Do not be afraid . . . We are on a peaceful mission and desire the well-being of the people of Earth . . . Be calm . . . Be calm . . .'

APPEARED FOR THREE MONTHS

"For three months running they kept coming back, and once the ship became transparent (this was my impression), enabling me to see the crew using a sort of lever or control column, and one of them seemed to be luminous. The ship was round and more or less 15 metres in diameter, with a sort of cupola on top with six windows round it. Beneath there were three spheres set in triangular formation in a cavity in the fuselage. When it came down towards the ground, it was of a reddish-orange luminosity, and when it flew up towards the sun it got redder until it was blood-red with aluminium tones.

"During this period of three months I was visited by a Naval Lieutenant and his wife, and told them about the strange appearances of the ship from Venus. They didn't believe me, and obviously thought I was mad. Luckily for me, and to the surprise of my visitors, we saw the ship on the horizon on the very same night of their arrival. We immediately got into the officer's car and went to Councillor Oliveira's house, then proceeded to the locality where, on other occasions, the ship had come down almost to ground level.

"What a sensational thing happened then! When we got there, we saw another car already exchanging light flashes with the machine, which in turn responded to the signals. Then the lights went out and all was silent. We approached what we presumed to be the landing ground of the objects. On passing the spot where the other car had been, we found it had vanished. It had disappeared completely.

"It was our intention to get nearer to the ships—by now there were four of them hovering a few metres above the ground—when one shot a beam of green light on to our car. We stopped. We were all freezing with cold and a white substance covered the whole car. Back at home, when we had broken off our investigation, the Lieutenant said he would submit a report to Naval Intelligence telling them what he had seen."

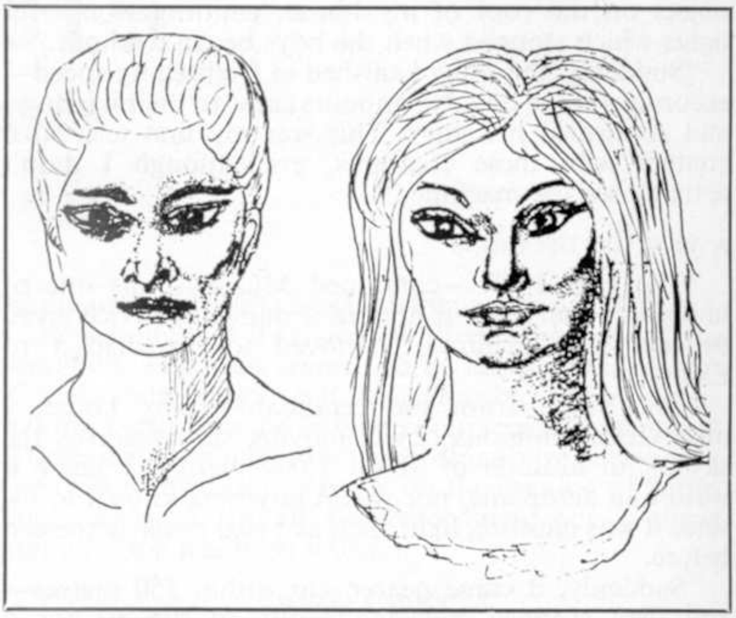
THEY ARE PEACEFUL

What do they want?

"They are peaceful"—said the medium—"they don't want to harm anyone, only to warn humanity about the risk they would run in a total war. The Venusians have been visiting us for a long time and have chosen certain people who, after preparation over a period of time—perhaps years—can act as spokesmen for them, as in the case of Professor Oliveira Junior in Belo Horizonte, President of a flying saucer study group, who was snatched up from his backyard and taken for a ride through the cosmos.

"The Professor tells how, at frightening speed, he was taken round the orbits of Mars, Jupiter, Venus and the Sun in a period of twenty minutes. I, for example, have also been prepared to see the ships and hear the messages of the Venusians. Now, after my latest contact, I am aware that I shall soon be invited for a space trip in a Venusian ship. My organism and mind are already being submitted to tests which will prepare me for a journey to other galaxies."

Múzio stopped speaking. His very blue eyes have a greater intensity in their shine and his hands are cold and wet with sweat. He leaves us at the gate of his house after a whole day of accounts about the ships and visits to the places where they have landed. He is now yet another of many who are doing all they can to find out more about UFOs all over the world.



More occupants—authors of telepathic contacts?

A Commission formed by the U.S. Government some years ago to study the problem came to the conclusion that UFOs do not exist—that they were nothing more than a collective psychosis, or the invention of people trying to attract attention to themselves. But can such frequent sightings be explained in this way?

* * *

That is the end of the account from *O Cruzeiro* of August 4, 1970.

Comment on the Múzio story

It would be interesting to find out more about Múzio. The above story contains many interesting little points we have come across before in other cases: the Adamski-type ship and crewman, fall in temperature, beam of light and telepathic message. Details like the ship gently swaying in the air, the change in colour, even the messages themselves, are all familiar.* The fact that Múzio knew of the case of Professor Oliveira in Belo Horizonte would indicate that he is aware of flying saucer activity elsewhere. If he has read a couple of books on the subject he could easily have invented this story. On the other hand, if it is true it is more than impressive. The general area of the alleged incidents is about 50 km. west of Belo Horizonte, so Múzio would have no difficulty in obtaining newspapers and flying saucer literature.

School Director chases UFO near Guarulhos

Following an incident on August 4, 1970, at 8.20 p.m., in the region of Ginasio Parque Novo Mundo, near Guarulhos, an investigation was carried out by myself and Candido Cavalcanti of ABECE on the night of

* *Not to mention the response to flashing light signals* (*see* FSR Case Histories *No. 2, December 1970*)—EDITOR.

Friday, August 14. The following account was given to us by Pedro Antonio Federsoni, Jr., the Vice-Director of the above school (Ginasio), whose report is corroborated by the Director of the school:

At 8.20 p.m. classes were going on as usual when a girl rushed into the Director's office to tell him that there was a strange light over the school. The Director went out to see what it was, and immediately shouted for the Vice-Director and other teachers. Eleven came out to observe the object, which was about the size of a football, brighter than a sodium lamp and light blue in colour. At first they wondered if it could be Venus, but decided against this when the object began to move slowly west at a speed greater than that of a body moving due to terrestrial spin. Could it be a satellite? No, the object was too low and much bigger, and was giving off vivid rays of light as it moved towards a water tower about 1 km. distant. There it turned to the left and descended until it was hovering beside the tower. Here it divided vertically into two parts and the rays got bigger. The two parts were linked by a thicker ray of light so that the object looked like a dumb-bell standing on end. Each ball was now the size of a billiard ball held at arm's length. The light intensity changed and the object seemed to pulsate steadily as it stayed motionless for fifteen minutes.

The Director got into his car, turned it towards the object and began to flash his headlights. At this, the object moved off to the west in the direction of the Pico de Jaragua. Pedro joined the Director in the car and followed the object along the Via Dutra at maximum possible speed for fifteen minutes. As the object flew away, always gaining on the car, it slowly changed colour from light blue to very light yellow, canary yellow-orange, and finally a bright red, which was indescribable.

All the time the colour changes were taking place the object seemed to get bigger and brighter. When it was finally realised that further pursuit was useless, they stopped the car and watched the object disappear behind hills. When last seen it had again diminished in size and brilliance and had changed to a dull grey colour. The total time of observation was about thirty minutes. (Note: When the Director flashed his lights at the object, a low beam headlight burnt out. Coincidence?) Cloud above the object was illuminated bright white.

On the following day a teacher at the Ginasio in Pirituba, near the Pico de Jaragua and on the reported line of flight of the object, reported that he had seen a bright object cross the sky. It had varied in size from that of a billiard ball to that of a football. The light intensity changed so that at times the object nearly vanished.

A number of people, including Padre Norberto, have seen cigar-type objects flying low over the Pico de Jaragua, which is the highest hill in the State of São Paulo and lies about 25 km. due north of the centre of the city. We are now trying to find out exactly what is going on. Padre Norberto has stated that on three occasions his car battery has boiled and failed when he saw an object like a crescent moon beside the road near the Pico. (The Pico has two 300 m. TV masts on its two peaks.)

Fortean Phenomenon

Here is a summary of various reports in São Paulo papers about an incident that occurred on Friday, August 14:

Two families live in a humble house in Vila Brasilandia, São Paulo. Dona Onofra Candido Leal lives with her two young boys in one part, and Dona Albertina Cecato de Castro and her five children have the other half. Neither of the women belong to any sort of religious sect and cannot be called religious at all, nor do they frequent macumba sessions, although they do sometimes discuss this sort of thing.

On Friday night at about 11 p.m. both women were at home, all the children except one being asleep. Suddenly, they were all awoken by a tremendous noise on the roof. It sounded to them as if someone had heaved an enormous boulder on to the roof, breaking the tiles. The two women called to each other through the wall but, unable to find any explanation for the event, decided to go back to bed. No sooner had they done so than the noises began again. Now they were certain that someone was throwing stones at the house. The noise got so bad that women and children left their beds and fled into the street. The older boys ran round the house searching for the culprits. They searched everywhere, but still the stones continued to pound down. The stones were still falling two hours later, breaking tiles and windows, when a car from the 2nd Battalion of the Military Police arrived on the scene under the command of Lieutenant Souza Lima. His men searched the vicinity while the stones continued to fall.

Unable to find the culprit and realising that the two families and his men were in danger of serious injury, the officer called in two more cars, this time from the police. These were followed by yet two more vehicles, one of which brought the police dog Alt.

A new search was carried out. By this time the locality was teeming with police and a large crowd had gathered, but the stones continued to fall, not only on the house but all round it, too, so that the police and onlookers were in considerable danger. There was no longer any doubt in anyone's mind that this was something brought about by evil spirits. At 4 a.m., people from the neighbourhood were kneeling in the street, praying. At 6 a.m., while the police were still surrounding the danger area, the hail of stones suddenly ceased.

A member of the Federação Espirita de São Paulo told reporters that these phenomena are provoked by "mediums of physical effects". They often cause considerable hardship to families where one member is an unconscious medium.

Reporters returned to the house the following day to find the residents already looking for somewhere else to live. The interior of the house and the yard were strewn with hundreds of stones of a type that can only be found 300 metres from the house.

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome, We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

A NEW FSR CATALOGUE

The effects of UFOs on Animals, Birds, and smaller creatures Part 7

THE cases included in this section of our catalogue come from another of the major "flap" years. Prepared by Gordon Creighton, the list continues to grow, and by the time we reach the final section it will probably consist of more than 200 cases.

THE CATALOGUE—(vii) *1966*

103. Málaga, Spain. (January/February, 1966)

A creature 1 metre high, with a large head, fangs, and long hair, was seen to enter an empty and derelict house in the Calle Alta, where it vanished. Investigators discovered the curious fact that whereas the house had formerly swarmed with rats and also with cats preying on the rats, for some time past not a single rat or cat had been seen there.[1]

FSR, March/April 1967, pp.31-32.

104. El Berrial, Venezuela. (January 16, 1966)

The peasant Antonio Grozco was riding on his donkey, when an object flew overhead. He dropped dead. His donkey apparently was unhurt.

FSR, November/December 1966, rear cover.

105. Tully, Queensland, Australia. (January, 1966)

According to the *Sun-Herald* of January 23, 1966, Mr. Albert Pennisi said his dog suddenly "went mad" and bounded off towards the lagoon where the Queensland "flying saucer nests" were found.

Report by Mrs. Judith Magee, FSR, March/April 1966, p. 28.

106. Eliot, Maine, USA. (Night of March 16, 1966)

A family observed a red ball of light, with an adjacent small red light that blinked in unison with a high-pitched "beeping sound". Dogs in the neighbourhood barked and howled while the UFO was present.

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. III, No. 7 (March/April 1966), p. 3.

107. Attignéville, France. (1.30 p.m., March 26, 1966)

Shepherd Jean Voilquin saw a strange object—the "cross-country cogwheel"—running across the fields. His herd of sheep huddled together timidly as it went past them, while his two dogs took off in pursuit of it, but did not manage to catch up with it and it vanished into the next field.

Charles Bowen: *Cross-Country Cog Wheels*, in FSR, September/October 1966, p. 16.

108. Alto, Tennessee, USA. (Midnight, April 5-6, 1966)

Two men saw an object hovering above a swamp. They noticed also that cows, horses and dogs in the vicinity were all very disturbed.

Jacques Vallée: (From ATIC Files, U.S. Air Force.) Case No. 735 of *A Century Of Landings*, in *Lumières Dans La Nuit* and *Passport To Magonia* (Regnery, Chicago, edition).[2]

109. Yorktown, Iowa, USA. (2.10 a.m., April 23, 1966)

Farmer Ronald E. Johnson, living on Route No. 2, Yorktown, a few miles west of Clarinda, Iowa, was awakened by a loud roar. Getting up and looking southwards through his window, he saw a cigar-shaped object, about 60ft. long, landing in a field within 50ft. of his house. The roar ended as it landed "on a series of 17 to 20 long legs." A vivid red light on the craft bathed the surroundings in a blood-red glow. After landing, the object emitted a series of loud, explosive, crackling noises at regular intervals, like gunshots, and the air was filled with an odour which the farmer recognised as resembling that of ozone. For twenty minutes he observed the object remaining stationary in his field, and he then returned to bed. Next morning, on inspecting the farm, he found that something had evidently greatly disturbed his cattle during the night, for they had all bolted to the far end of the pasture where, as he put, they "were still acting up considerably", and they refused to return to the farm that morning for feeding. At the spot where the object had landed he found a series of distinct impressions.

NICAP Special Report: *UFOs: A New Look* (1969), p. 22.

110. Tashkent, USSR. (About 4.20 a.m., April 26, 1966)

At the precise moment when many Americans were watching a meteor streaking across the evening sky towards the Atlantic, thousands of miles away in Tashkent (lying on the opposite side of the globe to the north-eastern United States, and with a nine-hour time difference from the American Atlantic seaboard) a blinding flash of light accompanied the great earthquake which struck the Tashkent Fault, killing a few people but leaving 200,000 homeless. The American "meteor" and the Russian "quake" coincided precisely, the time at Tashkent being 5.23 a.m.

About one hour previously however (i.e. at 4.20 a.m., Tashkent time) a schoolteacher living near the Tashkent Fault noticed that her dog began to howl. When the earthquake occurred, the dog rushed towards the door just before each of the many shocks that were felt.[3]

John Keel: *UFOs: Operation Trojan Horse*, pp. 146-147.

111. Near Sawtry, England. (5.00 a.m., April 28, 1966)

Two men from Lincoln, Peter Rushton and Derek Robinson, were sleeping in a parked van on a side-road. Rushton awoke suddenly at 5.00 a.m. with an acidic taste in his mouth and difficulty in breathing. He aroused his companion. They heard birds screeching in the trees all around them, and saw two large spherical orange objects the apparent size of a sixpenny-piece held at arm's length. The birds fell quiet again as soon as the objects had faded from view.

FSR, May/June 1967, p. 31.

112. Rebouillon, France. (3.45 a.m., July 17, 1966)

Returning home by car from Draguignan, René Pebre and two companions saw an oval, grey, metallic object, about five metres long, stationary at a low altitude some 300 metres from the road, and noticed that all the dogs in the neighbourhood were barking.

Jacques Vallée: Case No. 781 of *A Century Of Landings, in Lumières Dans La Nuit* and *Passport To Magonia* (from GEPA Bulletin, September 1966).

113. Baltimore, USA. (Early on August 1, 1966)

Residents of the Country Ridge housing development were awakened in the early morning by barking dogs. At least two families saw a hovering egg-shaped object which had

flashing lights on the upper and lower sections and was making a loud whirring or whining noise.

NICAP Special Report, *UFOs: A New Look* (1969), p. 12.

114. Presque Isle and Erie Area, USA. (August 3, 1966)

A woman claimed that she saw a humanoid about 5½ft. high, dressed in yellow clothing and walking in the streets of Erie, Pa., at 5.30 a.m. She had been awakened by the barking of the local dogs, a pack of which were yapping at the creature's heels, but it ignored them.

John Keel: *New Landing & Creature Reports*, in FSR, November/December 1966, p. 8.

115. Heraldsburg, California, USA. (Early on August 20, 1966)

Otto Becker and his son and daughter-in-law awoke to find the whole house bathed in bright light from an object which they estimated to be as tall as a six-storey building and which was at tree-top level some 60 metres or so from the house. Their domestic animals were all greatly disturbed and the witnesses themselves suffered for several days from inflammation of the eyes.

Jacques Vallée: Case No. 789 of *A Century Of Landings, in Lumières Dans La Nuit* and *Passport To Magonia*.

116. Jonesboro, Tennessee, USA. (Noon, October 12, 1966)

Mrs. Burnette S. Fox, Mrs. Jones, and various neighbours saw a number of flying silvery objects discharge "some substance in sheets" that broke into strands resembling spider-web. It was sticky, adhered to everything, and burned Mrs. Fox on one finger. All the witnesses became nauseated, and felt itching sensations, and everyone who entered their backyards during the period till the following Saturday (when it rained) also felt this itching. Mrs. Fox said that her dog would not leave the house until the rain came on the Saturday, and her cows also refused, until it had rained, to go into the field where the substance had fallen. She added that other farmers in the area had reported similar behaviour by their animals.

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. III, No. 10 (October/November 1966), pp. 5-6.

117. Newton, Illinois, USA. (6.45 p.m., October 14, 1966)

An adolescent saw a bright light, and then observed a plate-shaped object hovering near the house. The object then moved away at high speed, causing a static effect on the telephone while the boy was calling his mother to try to describe the object to her. On returning home, she found the boy in a state of shock and the dog hiding in a corner.

Jacques Vallée: Case No. 801 of *A Century Of Landings*, in *Lumières Dans La Nuit* and *Passport To Magonia* (personal communication).

118. Gallipolis, Ohio, USA. (Night of November 15, 1966)

According to the newspaper *Tribune* of November 18, 1966, Mr. Newell Patridge of Doddridge County had reported that on the night of November 15 his TV set started "acting like a generator", and his German shepherd dog "Bandit" "started carrying on something terrible". Patridge said he shone a flashlight into the field next to his house, and saw something there "like two red reflectors". The dog's hair stood straight up, and it ran out into the field. *It was never seen again.*

John Keel: *West Virginia's Enigmatic "Bird"*. In FSR, July/August 1968, pp. 7-14.

119. Cheshire, Ohio, USA. (4.45 a.m., November 17, 1966)

Mrs. Roy Grose was awakened by the barking of her dog, and arose to investigate. Looking through the kitchen window, she saw the Moon and also a bright circular object, the size of a small house, which seemed to have sections or compartments of blue and red windows. After zig-zagging to and fro, the object vanished.

APRO Bulletin, November/December 1966.

120. Clifton Hampden, Berks, England. (8 p.m., November 18, 1966)

Just as she was shutting up her two Corgi dogs for the night, Mrs. Gillian Partlett saw a bright orange object hover above her for two minutes. The two dogs started whining, "making a dreadful noise".

FSR, January/February 1967, p. 32.

121. Gallipolis, Ohio, USA. (November 1966)

According to the newspaper *Times-Sentinel* of November 20, 1966, Mr. William Watson of George's Creek Road had found his German shepherd dog crushed to death in a field. Every bone in the dog's body was crushed. The knee-high grass around the animal was flattened in a perfect circle 20ft. in diameter. There was no sign that the dog had been attacked by any ordinary animal. No blood was in evidence.[4]

John Keel: *West Virginia's Enigmatic "Bird"*. In FSR, July/August 1968, pp. 7-14.

122. Haynesville, Louisiana, USA. (8.15 p.m., December 30, 1966)

An American nuclear physicist was driving southwards with his family. The weather was overcast and it was raining. At a point just before they reached Haynesville they saw, stationary in the forest, either just below the tree-tops or at ground level, a pulsating dome of light which alternated between a dim red and a bright orange. At one moment its luminosity suddenly became far brighter than the car's headlights, and awoke the scientist's two children who had been asleep on the back seats. The scientist (a professor of physics as well as a nuclear researcher) made some rapid calculations of the amount of energy represented by the light, and was so impressed that he returned to the area next day with a scintillometer, and was able to determine the position of the light as having been about one mile from his car at the nearest point.

Then, while walking in the forest, he noticed that for a considerable distance around the landing site, all animal life appeared to have utterly vanished. There were no squirrels, no birds, not even any insects, and as a keen hunter he was himself familiar with the abundant Louisiana fauna. Finally, on enquiring among local people who had also seen the light, he made the startling discovery that important losses of cattle had occurred that same night. He also detected traces of burns on the ground. He reported the matter to both the U.S. Air Force and the Condon Commission at the University of Colorado.

Jacques Vallée: *Passport To Magonia*, pp. 45 and 338.

123. West Virginia and Ohio, USA. (1966-1967)

According to John Keel, "dog disappearances and the mutilation of cows and horses are now common in West Virginia and Ohio. The police are baffled."

John Keel: *West Virginia's Enigmatic "Bird"*. In FSR, July/August 1968, pp. 7-14.

NOTES

1. With this sort of case, in which no UFO is reported, we are faced with the possibility that it is some sort of "psychic" phenomenon. As I hope I have made clear, however, I feel that there is so much overlap between the two categories of phenomena that one of my main purposes in making this catalogue is to examine the possibility that UFOs and "psychic phenomena" *may be* of identical nature, or in some way related.
2. The edition of *Passport to Magonia* referred to as a reference throughout this catalogue is the American one published by the Henry Regnery Co. of Chicago in which the list of landings is carried as an appendix.

(*continued on page 31*)

LIVING CREATURES, EARTHQUAKES AND UFOs

Gordon Creighton

SOME readers may wonder why I included the Tashkent item (No. 110) in Part VII of *A New FSR Catalogue*.

The fact that animals and birds and fish can detect the occurrence of earthquakes hours or even days beforehand is too well known to merit much discussion, hundreds of such cases being on record. There is a species of small ornamental fish in Indonesia which has such an unerring faculty for detecting the approach of 'quakes that it is now in high demand in Japan where people keep them in a tank or bowl in the home and watch them carefully from time to time. When an earthquake shock is coming these fish give clear warning by bunching together in the corner of the tank furthest from the future epicentre of the 'quake (and facing towards the epicentre), and thus provide an excellent warning system.

I included a reference to this phenomenon of animal warnings about earthquakes in the Catalogue because there are still various mysterious factors. For example, we do not yet know the relationship—if any—between UFOs and earthquakes, but it is important to bear in mind that a good many investigators believe that there is such a relationship, and indeed *some investigators even think that UFOs "cause" earthquakes.*

What we do know is that there are numerous cases on record, as for example in the great Japanese 'quake of September 1, 1923, in which "lights" were seen overhead in the sky at the time of the shocks; in the severe Algerian 'quakes of September 9 and September 26, 1954; in the strong English earthquake which shook eleven counties of the Midlands on February 11, 1957, and during which "tadpole-shaped UFOs" were reported as having been seen overhead in the sky. Similarly, there have been numerous reports of "UFOs" and "flying saucers" observed over or near the menacing San Andreas Fault in California since at least as far back as 1896.

The scientific explanation for these "lights in the sky" which accompany earthquakes is that they are *piezo-electrical phenomena*, and it is no doubt correct. But there obviously still remain some mysterious areas. It may, for example, turn out that in some cases the *piezo-electrical* explanation is entirely correct, while in other cases what has been seen may well have been a UFO which was engaged in observing an earthquake. (Or in producing one?)

World round-up *of news and comment about recent sightings*

ENGLAND

Rainham low-level saucer

The *Brentwood Argus* of August 20, 1970, told of an alleged near-landing—

"A flying saucer was seen at Rainham last week. In fact it almost landed, says Mr. Richard Jones, 20, of Burwood Gardens.

"Mr. Jones was driving in Rainham Road, with 19-year-old Pauline Routledge of Newlands Road, Billericay.

"Mr. Jones told police they stopped about 10.50 p.m. on Wednesday after they heard 'loud electrical noises.' He thought there was a fault with his car.

"He says the object, about 20 feet long and 10 feet wide, hovered only a little way above the ground for a few seconds before flying away towards Hornchurch. It was glowing red with four white lights along its underside.

"A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said: 'We have absolutely no idea what this could have been. There were no other sightings reported. But if anyone did see it, we would welcome a letter stating the time and place of the sighting. This one is a mystery to us, we have no idea what it might have been.' "

Speedy "magnesium flare" UFO

An item now from *Pulman's Weekly News* of November 3, 1970—

"A ball of white light that made a slight whistling sound as it shot across the sky over Sidmouth puzzled many early risers on Thursday. (October 29, 1970.)

"Local trawlermen were among those who said they had seen the strange 'thing' at 7.20 a.m. just as the sky was beginning to become light.

"Another witness was Mr. John Pratt, of 7, Church Street, who said he was near the Market Place when he saw the ball of light go whizzing across the sky and disappear behind Knowle.

"He described it as being like a magnesium flare. But he added, 'When a plane drops a magnesium flare, it either falls straight down to earth or floats down gently on a parachute. This thing was moving at a terrific speed across the sky. I watched it for about 20 seconds before it vanished.'

"As it travelled through the air, it left behind a trail of vapour or white smoke about 1,000 feet up.

" 'At first,' said Mr. Pratt, 'I hesitated to talk about it because people might think I had imagined it, but I have since met several others who saw it.' "

Credit: **Mrs. Clare Branch** of Honiton.

Unusual object over Cornwall

With the Huntington film (taken from the A1 road, near Newark—see FSR CASE HISTORIES *Supplement 2* of December 1970) very much in mind, we were interested to read the following account which was published in *The West Briton and Royal Cornwall Gazette* of Thursday, November 26, 1970—

"An 'unidentified flying object' seen high over Redruth and Falmouth yesterday morning mystified keen-eyed workers and schoolchildren.

"Some of the staff of Tolgus CS School, Redruth, certainly saw the object, and 15-20 pupils saw it from

various points in the district.

"One of the staff, Mr. Joe Thomas, spotted the object while driving to school from his Illogan home.

"How did it appear to him? 'I thought it was a very short vapour trail with the sun glinting on it. But what was most peculiar was that it was moving eastwards.'

"Mr. Thomas said some of the pupils had kept the object in clear view for up to ten minutes. It was the only object in an otherwise completely clear blue sky. Some pupils described it as a 'streak of light,' but others said it resembled a cigar shape with something like short, stubby wings.

"A spokesman at Kehelland said no weather balloon had been let off at anywhere around that time.

"Many Falmouth people stared for minutes at a bright object in the sky. It appeared to be stationary, changed its shape and was bright silver and gold.

"The police had reports about it and RNAS Culdrose received inquiries. Some viewers thought it was a flying saucer. Others suggested it was a satellite. The less imaginative claimed it was a slow-moving plane caught in the light of the still rising sun."

Credit: **Dennis Bateman** of St. Ives.

Dome-shaped Scunthorpe UFO

From the Scunthorpe *Evening Telegraph* of November 25, 1970, comes the following account—

"Busman Melvyn Batty . . . (30), who lives at 56, Teale-street, Scunthorpe, said that he was walking from his home to shops in Frodingham-road last Friday morning when Paul (his son, aged 3) pointed to the sky and asked 'What's that?'

" 'I asked him if he meant the sun,' said Mr. Batty. 'Then I saw something silver in the sky. I thought it might have been a jet plane but then I noticed that it had no wings. It was domed shaped and was going across the sky faster than any ordinary aeroplane without leaving a trail. It was a perfectly clear sky and I'm sure I was not mistaken.'

"The object he saw, appeared from the direction of Doncaster in the west and he watched it disappear into the east.

"Mr. Batty said that he did not think too much about what he had seen until Sunday when his daughter, Julie (7) told him that she had been at school when she had seen a round ball in the sky.

"He asked when she had seen it and Julie said that it was on the Friday. Mr. Batty said that Julie had told him it looked like a round ball and it moved around and around in the sky before flying away.

"Mr. Batty said that he would have mentioned the sighting earlier but he did not really expect people to believe him.

"Neither RAF Manby nor RAF Scampton report having seen anything unusual at that time.

"In June, however, an unidentified object that looked like the moon but smaller and moving across the sky was sighted by a number of people.

"And last year, Scunthorpe police received four calls in the space of half-an-hour from people claiming to have seen an oval object about the size of the moon."

Credit: **Nigel Watson** of Scunthorpe.

Flaming object over Wimborne

The following item comes from the *Southern Evening Echo* of December 1, 1970—

". . . Mrs. Phyllis Wallace, of 34 Grove Road, Wimborne, her son Gordon (15) and his friend Garry Tilley all saw a large bright object in the sky as they were looking towards Holt.

"Said Mrs. Wallace: 'I don't know what it was. It had an oval shape and appeared to be on fire. It was not very high—not as high as you would

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SPRING HEEL JACK
(*continued from page 23*)

records in the newspapers of the time. For instance, *Everybody's* magazine of February 20, 1954, carried an article on Spring Heel Jack, stating that as late as September 25, 1904, a crowd of people in Everton watched a luminous figure leaping from house top to house top. Although it has so far not been possible to find a contemporary source for this story, it does seem to have a factual basis, since a subsequent issue of the magazine carried a letter from a reader who claimed that his father had been a witness, and stated, without giving further details, that the creature had been shown to be a kangaroo. (I also recall that some years ago there was an item on the now defunct TV programme "Tonight", in which Fyffe Robertson interviewed surviving witnesses to an early twentieth-century Spring Heel Jack case.)

Clearly, much remains to be done with this study. However, even at this stage, it is evident that the files of the nineteenth and early twentieth-century British press may, if carefully sifted, yield data of considerable interest to ufologists.

NOTES

1 For a more detailed account of the 1837 manifestations see J. Vyner: "The Mystery of Spring Heel Jack" in FSR, Vol. 7, No. 3, May/June 1961.

2 See, for instance: Charles Bowen: "More Unusual Humanoids," FSR, Vol. 14, No. 3, May/June 1968.
John A. Keel: "Ohio Contact Claim," FSR, Vol. 14, No. 1, January/February 1968.
Gordon Creighton: "The Humanoid. in Latin America" (in *The Humanoids*), cases 8, 21 and 35s

3 For some such reports see: Gordon Creighton: "The Humanoids in Latin America," cases 1 and 31.
J. Mesnard and C. Pavy: "Encounter with Devils"; FSR, Vol. 14, No. 5, September/October 1968.
Coral Lorenzen: "UFO Occupants in US Reports" (in *The Humanoids*), the Coldwater case.
Jim and Coral Lorenzen: *UFOs over the Americas;* chapter 5.

4 It should be made clear that, in spite of its name, this paper had no connection with the police force or the *Illustrated London News*. It was in fact a cheap journal, largely devoted to reports of the more sensational court cases.

5 See Coral Lorenzen: "UFO Occupants in US Reports" (in *The Humanoids*).

6 See Gordon Creighton: "The Humanoids in Latin America," cases 9, 12 and 14 (in *The Humanoids*).

A NEW FSR CATALOGUE (*continued from page 29*)

3 See the article *Living Creatures, Earthquakes and UFOs* which follows this section of the FSR Catalogue.

4 John Keel concludes: "During my travels I have examined a number of dogs and cows which have been mysteriously mutilated, as if operated on with a sharp scalpel. In December 1967 a cow was found outside of Gallipolis, Ohio, which had been cut cleanly in half 'as if by a giant pair of scissors'. The organs and blood had been removed from the lower half of the body." (See also NANA article by John Keel on animal mutilations, November 1967, and the celebrated case of the horse "Snippy".

expect a plane to be.'

"Gordon, a pupil at Wimborne Secondary Modern School, said they saw the UFO at about 6 p.m. It was travelling west to east and had flames coming from it 'like a rocket.'

"He said it was difficult to tell how far away it had been. He was sure it wasn't a plane. It had a big fire with flames flickering around the edges."

Credit: **Mrs. Clare Branch** of Honiton.

"Sodium lamp" UFO

Could the previous account have been of a rocket re-entry or of a decaying satellite? The next account, extracted from the *Southern Evening Echo* of December 2, 1970, shows that an object, described differently, was seen at the same time from another part of the district—

". . . Mr. Anthony Watson, of Bashley Road, New Milton, said today he saw what looked like an 'orange street lamp' in the sky while walking near Bashley sports field shortly after 6 p.m. on Monday, about the same time as the flaming object reported yesterday was sighted.

"He estimated it to be about five miles away in the Bransgore direction and at cloud height. It appeared stationary at first, although it could have been moving either towards or away from him.

"After some 20 seconds it moved slowly to the right for another 20 or 30 seconds, and was again stationary for about the same time.

" 'Then it was just as if someone had switched a light off—it vanished,' said Mr. Watson, whose 16-year-old daughter Pauline, a bank clerk at New Milton, also saw the object.

" 'It was the size I cannot get over. It was too big to have been a star or a plane,' he said. 'And it was too bright to pick out its shape. It was like looking at a sodium street lamp at a distance of about 60 yards.'

"Mr. Watson is an instrument maker at SRDE, Christchurch . . .

"A Christchurch couple have also reported seeing an object, similar to that seen over Wimborne, from their home in Hurn Way—also at about 6 p.m. on Monday."

Credit: **Mrs. Clare Branch.**

GUERNSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS

Mirror UFO

This item was carried by the *Guernsey Evening Press* of October 19, 1970—

"An unidentified flying object 'like a giant flying mirror' was reported over the south of Guernsey, on Saturday morning. (October 17, 1970.)

"The phenomenon was spotted by Mrs. Sybil Gavey, of Candie Road, Castel, who saw a large object in the sky 'like a mirror shining.'

"Mrs. Gavey called her husband Edward and Mr. George Le Page, who was helping them to get some cattle out of a field, and they all looked at the object in the sky.

" 'It was quite beautiful,' said Mrs. Gavey, afterwards. 'It was more oblong than round and appeared to be floating along through the sky. We saw it for quite a few seconds and then it closed down to a small ball and vanished. The sky seemed to be pink after it had gone.'

"The object was seen shortly after 10.5 a.m. on Saturday, but a States Airport spokesman said that they had not heard of any similar reports of UFOs at the time."

NEW ZEALAND

Mystery "circle" repeater

There were echoes of mystery circle reports of late 1969 in the following account from the Taranaki "Daily News" of September 15, 1970 (captioned 'PA Hamilton' 14.9.70)—

"A Te Kuiti farmer, Mr. C. Blackmore, believes a UFO visited his farm last night for the third time in a year. The water in a pond has overflowed and a track has appeared around the edge.

"As on the two previous occasions, for no apparent reason the pond has a circle of weed flattened in a clockwise spiral fashion and a sickly smell hangs over the water.

"Mr. Blackmore said today the area around the pond was not carrying stock, so animals were not the cause of the strange track which also circles the edge of the pond in a clockwise direction.

"When he went to the pond at 8 a.m. today he noticed the level had dropped and the overflow pipe was dripping. A watermark round the edges showed that something had forced the water to rise during the night and overflow.

"The level is returning to normal, but the water appears to have changed colour to a dirty brown, as happened on the last visit 'out of the unknown.'

"Mr. Blackmore said the occurrences on this piece of land followed the pattern of the previous circles, the first of which appeared on October 8 last year and the second in January this year.

"The rushes were flattened in the same manner and there was the same sickly smell in the air, although the weeds on the edge had not yet turned brown, as they did last time.

"Mr. Blackmore said he believed the markings and smell had been caused by a UFO. He was unable to find any footprints on the track around the pond."

Credit: **V. L. Scott,** New Plymouth, N.Z. (Thanks also to other un-named correspondents.)

UFO over Waiwera

The following item appeared in *The Otago Daily Times* of September 21, 1970—

"An unusual flying object seen by two young men in Waiwera early yesterday morning remained unidentified last night. Meteorological officers ruled out the possibility of a weather balloon or an aircraft.

"The two men, Ian Higgie (25) and Mr. Neil Black (23), saw the object at 1.15 a.m. yesterday when they were sitting in a car outside Mr. Higgie's home in Waiwera South, about six miles north of Clinton.

"Mr. Black said last night the object glittering with blue, yellow and white lights, descended slowly to a height of 500ft. where it remained for half a minute before climbing vertically at the same rate. It then disappeared towards the east at an increased speed.

"Meteorological officers in Dunedin and Invercargill said last night the object could not have been a weather balloon.

"The Invercargill office said there had been no reports of unusual meteorological phenomena in the area and ruled out the possibility of the object being an aircraft.

"No other sightings of the object were reported to either the Dunedin or Clinton police yesterday."

Credit: **Norman Wardell,** The Apollo Verein (NZ 1958), Box 27, Otahuhu.

Lights over Larnachs Castle

The Otago Daily Times of September 25, 1970, carried another report—

"Two mysterious coloured lights were seen by several people over the St. Clair area last night.

"The two lights, flashing yellow and white alternately, were seen about 10.30 over Larnachs Castle.

"The lights were seen to rotate in small circles before disappearing.

"They were later seen over the St. Clair area.

"The director of the Beverley-Begg Observatory, Mr. A. J. Doig, said nothing he knows of could fit the description."

Credit: **Norman Wardell** of Otahuhu.

SOUTH AFRICA

UFO gave her gooseflesh

In the October 21, 1970, edition of the *Cape Argus*, there appeared a story, from the Pretoriac orrespoudent of that newspaper, in which mild physiological effects of a UFO experience were described—

"An extraordinary emotional experience was related by a Pretoria house-

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Artwork by Pauline Bowen

wife who claims to have been in the presence of a flying saucer yesterday.

" 'I know this is going to sound ridiculous, and I myself have never believed people who claim to have seen such phenomena,' said Mrs. Lyndal Katzke when she reported the sighting today.

"She said she was talking to a neighbour in the garden of her Riget Street, Waterkloofridge, home at about 1.15 yesterday afternoon when suddenly they both heard a noise which they had never heard before.

" 'It is very difficult to describe the noise,' she explained. 'The closest I can come to it is the sound a thousand large birds would make swooping low across the sky. It was a kind of swishing, swooping sound. At the same time, I experienced a strange feeling. I felt a cold thrill as if I had seen a ghost, and I got gooseflesh on my arms.'

"Unfortunately, she and the neighbour, Mrs. D. Groenewald, were standing under a tree in the garden. Mrs. Katzke said she looked up but could not see anything. However, Mrs. Groenewald said she saw a bright metallic circular-shaped object moving off at a terrific speed towards the south.

"Mrs. Katzke said it could not possibly have been an aircraft of any known description as it was too low and travelling too fast. 'There was no sound of its arrival,' she said.

"Nobody else in the area has reported seeing the UFO."

Credit: **E. R. Pitlo,** Somerset West, C.P., South Africa.

SPAIN

Marks at Morón de la Frontera

From the Madrid daily newspaper *ABC* of May 16, 1970, we learn how, at Morón de la Frontera, Seville, on May 13, 1970—

"Some strange tracks appeared in a sunflower field on the farm named 'Rancho del maestro Oliva'. They appeared in the form of two circles of about 25 metres in circumference, and while the plant stalks were burned, the flowers and leaves were fresh and untouched.

"The owner of the farm, Señor Garrido, notified the Guardia Civil [a uniformed government police force stationed in the small towns], who came to investigate the phenomenon, along with a group of local researchers from the so-called 'Equipo Nacional de Investigaciones de Ovnis' [loosely: National Team for Investigation of UFOs], who investigated the ground. This Team was composed of Messrs. Camacho Moreno, Ayala Morales, and Romero Cabrera.

"It was noted that there were two equal rings on the ground, about 30 metres distance one from the other. Both circles were surrounded by small holes, each situated at an identical distance from the others (about 30 centimetres), with another, larger hole, in the centre of each group of holes. On the inside of the rings the sunflower plants appear burned, and no one can explain the phenomenon, as only the plants growing inside each circle have burned stalks and are dead; but even so, the leaves are still fresh and green.

"The members of the Investigation Team on UFO phenomena have been reluctant to issue an opinion, yet have said that the tracks were made by an artificial phenomenon."—Cifra.

* * *

Translator's Note: Morón de la Frontera is a small town in the province of Seville, in the south of Spain. The incident probably took place on the night of May 12/13. "Cifra" is the news agency reporting it on wire.

Credit: **Russell-b. Guérard y Holmes** (Madrid), whom we thank also for the translation.

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